

Soldiers



The Official U.S. Army Magazine

February 2002

Black Hawk Down

The Anthrax Threat
Muslim and Soldier

Special Inserts
Tip-ins at pages 9 and 40

Soldiers

February 2002 Volume 57, No. 2



The Official U.S. Army Magazine

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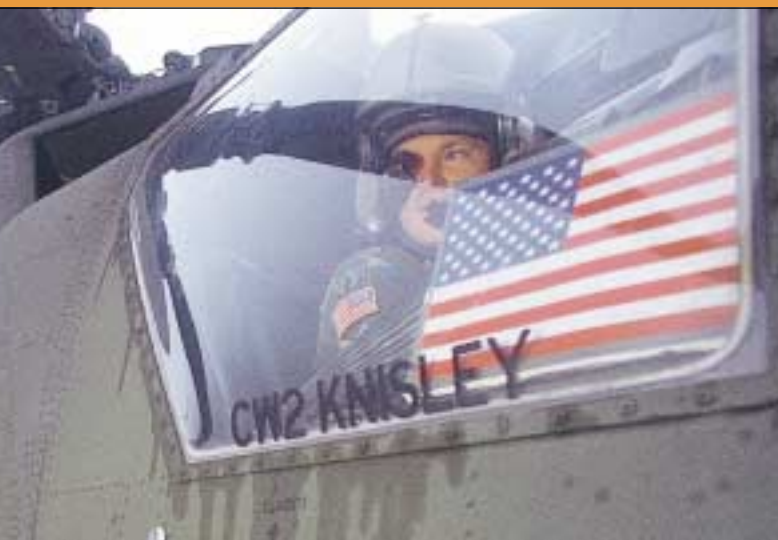
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Front cover:

Army aid helps make "Black Hawk Down" both realistic and accurate. — Sidney Baldwin/Revolution Studios

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Check out, pull out these Special Inserts



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From the Editor

With the motion picture "Black Hawk Down" now in theaters, *Soldiers* senior editor Heike Hasenauer takes us to Morocco for a behind-the-scenes look at the Army's role in the making of the movie.

Moving from Morocco to the mountains of Utah, Douglas Ide profiles 14 Army athletes who will likely compete in this month's Winter Olympics, in "Utah Gold."

For the making of maintenance gold medallists, don't miss "The National Maintenance Training Center," in which Jack Siemieniec showcases the Army's only facility that teaches entire units how to achieve maintenance excellence.

In the arena of spiritual maintenance, Beth Reece gives us an inside look at Islam in "Muslim and Soldier," which showcases her interview with the Army's first Muslim chaplain.

For a look at how you can prepare for the afterlife — life after the Army, that is — this quarter's issue of *Hot Topics* focuses on retirement planning and benefits. And, finally, read our "Writing and Shooting for Soldiers" insert to see how you can make your unit famous.

John C. Dutt

As Simple as NBC

I WOULD just like to make a quick comment about the picture of the soldier in "mask-only" posture on page 43 of your November edition.

This picture stuck out like a sore thumb, and drives home the point that NBC training should be integrated into all Army training exercises. I'm not sure what exactly the soldier is doing in the picture, but it seems to me he won't be able to effectively utilize his weapon.

We all know it is extremely difficult to aim a weapon effectively with a mask on, but it is even more difficult when your filter canister is on the wrong side of the mask. Could it be he is not wearing his assigned mask, or is he not really a left-handed firer? NBC NCOs should be taking care of these type things.

SFC Richard A. Skinner
via e-mail

Thumbs Up

I WANTED to express my appreciation for the excellent magazine you produce month after month.

Heike Hasenauer, in particular, should be commended for the tremendous efforts that went into the November edition. A quick count shows she authored seven articles and was responsible for filling 22 of the magazine's 48 pages of story material. That, in itself, is no small feat.

My more than 22 years of service took me many places, which I often get to see in Heike's stories. She writes with directness when presenting information articles, yet shifts to a compassionate style when human emotions and the impacts of Army life are the subject matter. And of course,

Know Thine Etiquette

THIS is my first time writing to your organization, but I thought it worth the time to send you a positive note.

I am pleased and impressed at your professionalism and tact in responding to the young specialist who thought the U.S. flag was improperly displayed. I sensed that your words were carefully chosen and your point well made.

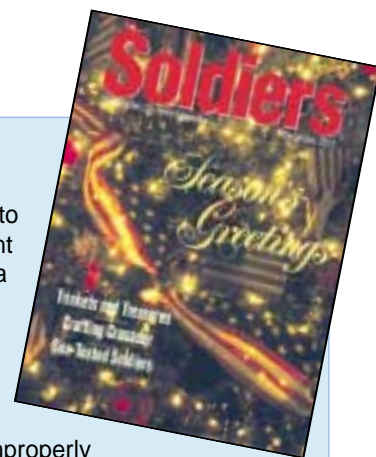
The points that I would like to bring out in relation to this correspondence are:

- We as parents, teachers and leaders deserve a swift kick for allowing our young people to even get out of elementary school without knowing basic customs and care for our national banner. As a side note, I am disappointed with my own soldiers who, when arbitrarily asked, cannot for the sake of their lives recite to me their second general order. Did we not learn this in basic training? Who on Earth ever gave us permission to forget the basics?

- The second point is that we, wanting badly to be "heard" by someone, are quite eager to point out the faults and mistakes committed by others, so much so that we often do not take the time to verify for ourselves what is correct.

Thank you for "listening." Best wishes to you all at *Soldiers* magazine. We appreciate what you do.

CW2 Paul Lockhart
via e-mail



Heike's ability to shoot illustrative, professional photos gives *Soldiers* added bang for the buck.

Though retired, I still serve as a DA civilian at Fort Gordon, Ga. And I look forward each month to reading your great publication.

Mark A. Davies
via e-mail

Ground-Zero Soldiers

MY name is MAJ Geoffrey K. Seals, and I command the New York Army Guard's 204th Engineer Battalion. I am one of the two soldiers pictured in the November article "After the Attack" standing beside a Humvee while Army Secretary Thomas

E. White points towards Ground Zero in Manhattan.

I just wanted to give names to the other faces that appear in the photo. To the far left is CPT Purcell, commander of Company B, 105th Infantry. Beside me, wearing a white helmet, is LTG Flowers, chief of engineers and commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The 204th Engr. Bn. was augmented by the soldiers of the 105th's B and C companies, who maintained close security at Ground Zero while our engineers secured the immediate surrounding area.

Other units on the ground included the 101st Cavalry Regiment, 258th Field Artillery, 42nd Aviation Brigade, 105th

and 442nd Military Police, and the 69th Inf., which we relieved in place. There were other units across all branches of the armed forces, which gave everyone tremendous inspiration in a time of true need.

We were all buoyed by the letters from school children, and the words of appreciation and support from citizens and city services personnel. Local disaster services agencies, volunteers and such area facilities as Fort Hamilton and Fort Wadsworth proved indispensable in providing basic subsistence and morale support. Everyone felt humbly honored being able to provide comfort and support to our nation in a time of need.

MAJ Geoffrey K. Seal
via e-mail

BAH, Humbug!

I AM a staff sergeant currently

stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C. Because I'm single, I am required to live in the barracks. My battalion commander wrote a recommendation for BAH approval, but the housing office denied the request.

What do I want from Soldiers? I want to be the voice for all seasoned NCOs who are forced to either live in the barracks with their soldiers or pay for off-post housing.

The average staff sergeant has been in the military for at least 12 years. With this amount of time you accumulate many things. Will the punishment never end for being single in the military?

Ssg Andrea M. Green
Fort Bragg, N.C.

History Question

I AM very interested in World War II history, especially post-Normandy landing events. I

have visited the key objects on the Normandy beaches in France, and also visited Berchtesgaden in Germany where Hitler's house was situated.

All these places saw the 101st Airborne Division in action. I wonder if there is somebody left who fought his way from France to Germany and Austria, or experienced either of these conflicts. I would like to send e-mail to some of these heroes. Can you reach any of them? I intend to make another trip to Normandy soon.

Ari Aaltio
Finland

Your best bet is probably to visit the 101st Airborne Division Association's website (www.screamingeagle.org).

screamingeagle.org). You'll find a guestbook, useful information about the 101st's history and organization, and suggestions on how to contact World War II veterans of the 101st.

Medics' Medal

I JUST found a February 1977 Soldiers article entitled "AMA Honors Medics," which mentioned a Lifetime Achievement Award given to Army medics as a collective group. My husband was an Army medic in Vietnam in 1967 and 1968, and I'm wondering if this award is available to all Army medics who request it. If so, I would like to surprise him with it.

Gail Talarico
via e-mail

Soldiers is for soldiers and DA civilians. We invite readers' views. Stay under 150 words — a post card will do — and include your name, rank and address. We'll withhold your name if you desire and may condense your views because of space. We can't publish or answer every one, but we'll use representative views. Write to: **Feedback, Soldiers, 9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581**, or e-mail: soldiers@belvoir.army.mil.



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USAMRIID researchers are currently working to develop improved vaccines against anthrax and several other diseases.

WEEKS after the deadly terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., politicians and military officials in the United States dealt with a bizarre new aspect of homeland defense — a series of actual and possible biological attacks involving anthrax.

Their concerns were not unfounded. Several of the terrorists involved in the Sept. 11 attacks had shown a peculiar interest in the capabilities of cropduster aircraft to dispense large amounts of chemicals over wide areas.

A few weeks after the attacks — almost as though U.S. speculation about a possible chemical-biological attack on America could have caused it to happen — letters containing powdery substances started turning up at five different locations across the country.

Bob Stevens, a photo editor at American Media Inc., in Boca Raton, Fla., was the first person to be diag-

The Anthr

Story by Heike Hasenauer

nosed with, and eventually die from, the disease.

Medical officials, FBI investigators and postal workers quickly reacted as America was challenged by the first real test of its ability to respond to chemical-biological warfare on the homefront.

In subsequent days, anthrax-contaminated letters targeted network news studios in New York, affecting assistants to CBS news anchor Dan Rather and NBC news anchor Tom Brokaw. Aides to Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle were also exposed to anthrax as the tainted mail reached offices on Capitol Hill.

Work at the affected sites temporarily ceased as FBI agents swept entire buildings for contaminants and clues that could lead them to the perpetrators.

The House of Representatives shut down for five days and hundreds of people lined up to be tested and receive doses of antibiotics.

As department heads and supervisors around the country issued warnings and published procedures to safeguard those who handle mail, the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick, Md., became involved.

Scientists with USAMRIID's

U.S. military officials fully realized the services' vulnerability to chemical-biological agents during the Gulf War, when Saddam Hussein threatened to use such weapons against coalition forces. At that time, 150,000 U.S. troops were vaccinated against anthrax. .



AP/Wideworld photo (both)



(Above) Capitol Hill employees wait to be tested at the Hart Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C., a day after mail delivered to the facility tested positive for anthrax.

(Left) After one anthrax fatality and several exposures in Florida, state agencies began testing suspicious packages. Here a Florida Department of Agriculture employee swabs a sample onto a culture dish to test for the presence of anthrax.

ax Threat

Diagnostic Systems Division performed diagnostic tests for bacillus anthracis, the agent that causes anthrax, said Chuck Dasey, a spokesman for the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, to which USAMRIID belongs.

The laboratory routinely tests medical and environmental samples in support of public-health and law-enforcement agencies. USAMRIID's primary mission is to develop medical countermeasures — including vaccines, diagnostics, therapeutics and information to protect service members from biological threats and naturally occurring infectious diseases.

USAMRIID researchers are currently working to develop improved anthrax vaccines, and vaccines against Venezuelan equine encephalitis and botulism, among others. The institute also assists the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control in the investigation of unusual disease outbreaks.

In October, USAMRIID scientists, civilian health professionals, FBI investigators and others dealt with an outbreak of another kind — not contagious and not usually deadly, but purposely planted by terrorists intent on disrupting the day-to-day operations of well-chosen groups.

Over a two-week period in October, the FBI investigated some 2,300 anthrax hoaxes, the agency reported.

But not all occurrences were hoaxes. Soon after the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., reported two documented cases of anthrax in Florida, a third case in that state was identified. And by Oct. 21, the CDC reported that nine people had contracted the disease and 32 others had tested positive for anthrax exposure — meaning anthrax spores had been found in their nasal passages. Three of the cases were inhalation anthrax, the most deadly kind.

Most of those exposed — 28 of the 32 at press time — worked in offices on Capitol Hill, said Deputy Surgeon General Dr. Kenneth Moritsugu. CDC officials at the same time made clear that the finding did not mean those people had the disease or would develop it.

Most disturbing, perhaps, was the Oct. 30 inhalation anthrax death of a New York City hospital worker with no known connection to any of the



Heike Hasenauer

Soldiers' health is monitored closely throughout their careers, and the anthrax vaccination program is another way in which combat readiness and individual health are assured.

closely with Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge, who directs the newly created Homeland Security Office.

President George W. Bush charged that office with the critical task of hammering out a plan to defeat terrorist threats in the United States — among them, the chemical-biological warfare threat.

"I don't want to get into the details," White told reporters Oct. 12 after meeting with Ridge

for the first time. He did say, however, that the military's role would be to support the "11 million civilian first-responders in the United States who deal primarily with emergencies.

"We have units that are capable of dealing with chemical, biological and nuclear devices," said White, who, as Army secretary, is responsible for ensuring soldiers are appropriately trained and ready to defend America. He's also responsible for how soldiers are used to defend the homefront.

U.S. military officials released little information about which soldiers and units would be vaccinated against anthrax, to preclude identifying specific units deployed to Pakistan and Uzbekistan. The Central Asian nations are staging areas for U.S. forces supporting operations against Afghanistan, the country harboring prime terrorist suspect Osama bin Laden.

But LTC John Grabenstein, deputy director of the Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program Agency and a member of the Operations Directorate in the Office of the Surgeon

General, said: "Soldiers going to a threat area will be vaccinated against anthrax."

He said the June 2001 Defense Department anthrax policy is unchanged. For complete policy information, go to www.anthrax.osd.mil.

Tens of thousands of U.S. soldiers were vaccinated during the Gulf War. And in 1998 Defense Secretary William Cohen approved a plan to vaccinate all soldiers, including those in the Reserve and National Guard, against anthrax.

Anthrax vaccinations, currently available only to military members, were limited to "designated special-mission units, a very small number of highly specialized people," Grabenstein said of the anthrax-vaccination situation in the Army in October 2001.

Each dose of the vaccine, given in six shots over an 18-month period, followed by an annual booster shot, "is like walking up a set of steps; complete coverage comes only after the sixth step," Grabenstein said. "But soldiers can be sure they are protected. Each dose allows the body to continue to



Heike Hasenauer

By knowing and practicing proper NBC procedures, soldiers give themselves an edge should they face anthrax or other biological and chemical threats.

previous infection sites. At press time, she was the fourth person to die from the more virulent pulmonary form of the disease.

Despite the deaths, agency officials attempted to put the anthrax threat into perspective.

"Some 20,000 people die from the flu every year," one official said. "And inhalation anthrax is so rare that it's been seen only 18 times in this country in the last 100 years."

Nonetheless, U.S. officials didn't want to be caught unprepared for a potential widespread anthrax attack. Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson asked Congress to allocate \$600 million to build the U.S. supply of Ciprofloxacin, the antibiotic most often used to thwart the disease. Thompson also asked for \$500 million to replenish the U.S. supply of small-pox vaccine.

Meantime, Bayer, the pharmaceutical giant that manufactures Cipro, operated its factories around the clock to produce 15 million of the tablets per day, a Bayer official said. The aim was to provide enough of the antibiotic to treat as many as 12 million people for 60 days.

On Oct. 2, Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White was named the Defense Department's interim executive agent for homeland security, a position that would allow him to work

develop antibodies. So each shot is beneficial.”

The vaccine, called Anthrax Vaccine Adsorbed, AVA, is a “cell-free filtrate, produced from a strain of anthrax that does not cause disease,” DOD officials said.

AVA for humans was developed in the United States in the 1950s and 1960s, and was licensed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 1970. Since then, it’s been “safely and routinely administered to wool-mill workers, veterinarians, laboratory workers, livestock handlers and U.S. service members,” FDA officials said.

To date, no long-term side effects have been reported, nor have studies of “Gulf War Illness” found any correlation between it and the vaccine, DOD officials said.

One in about 200,000 people may experience side effects serious enough to result in hospitalization, according to a CDC report. About one in 100,000 experience an allergic reaction.

The vaccine works by preventing the anthrax bacteria from growing and producing toxins that lead to the disease, Dasey said.

In tests of rhesus monkeys that were exposed to inhalation anthrax, even a partial dose of the vaccine was effective at preventing the disease for as long as two years, according to a recent USAMRIID report.

USAMRIID has one of only a few maximum biological containment facilities in the United States and can therefore study deadly viruses, such as two strains of Ebola — Ebola-Zaire and Ebola-Sudan. USAMRIID won acclaim as the laboratory involved in testing hundreds of imported Philippine monkeys that died of a 1989 Ebola outbreak in an animal quarantine facility in Reston, Va.

Researchers discovered that the particular strain of Ebola — which became known as Ebola-Reston — does not cause disease in humans. Although four employees of the quarantine facility became infected with the virus, none became ill.

That outbreak — and the professionals involved in removing monkey carcasses and performing autopsies,

Knowing the Enemy

CHEMICAL and biological weapons expert Jonathan B. Tucker, author of “Scourge: The Once and Future Threat of Smallpox,” said in a recent Time magazine interview that once the inhaled anthrax bacteria enters the body, it travels into the tiny air sacs in the lungs, where it lodges and disseminates.”

The bacteria then produce toxins that cause the illness in the host. “First you see nonspecific flu-like symptoms. Then, in hours or in a few days, some patients will have a brief period of recovery,” Tucker said. “Others progress directly to the second stage of the disease, which generally leads to shock, massive swelling of lymph nodes and hemorrhagic meningitis [bleeding in the brain].”

While the incidence of inhalation anthrax is rare, CDC officials said, the spores are long lasting. The incubation period for onset of the disease is short, and disability is severe. Ninety percent of its victims die. This is, therefore, the form of anthrax most often studied by chemical-biological threat experts.

Cutaneous anthrax — the type transmitted through a break in the skin — manifests itself as skin lesions. If left untreated, this form of the infection may spread into the bloodstream and cause shock and, finally, death. While 95 percent of the world’s anthrax cases are cutaneous, the chance of dying as a result of this form of the disease is about one in 100,000, CDC officials said.

Neither form of the disease is contagious and both can be treated in their early stages, medical experts said. But, again, inhalation anthrax is usually fatal, even when a victim has been treated with antibiotics.

Symptoms of anthrax generally occur one to six days after exposure, CDC officials said. But they can occur as early as 24 hours or as late as seven weeks after the victim has inhaled bacteria-infected spores.

Fueling the flames of anxiety over anthrax is the fact that it’s difficult to diagnose, because it starts off like a respiratory illness with vague symptoms. Then it progresses rapidly, causing fever, coughing and overall weakness. Difficulty breathing, shock and death follow, CDC experts said. — *Heike Hasenauer*

basically risking their own lives to protect the population at large — was the basis for the bestselling book “The Hot Zone.”

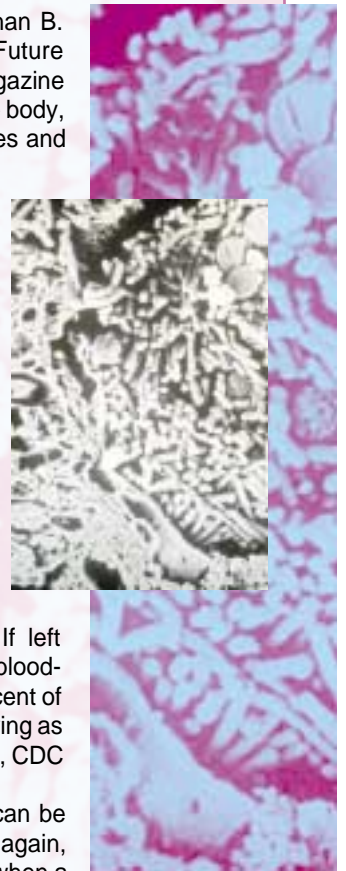
U.S. military officials fully realized the services’ vulnerability to chemical-biological agents during the Gulf War, when Saddam Hussein threatened to use such weapons against coalition forces. At that time, 150,000 U.S. troops were vaccinated against anthrax, said Lyn Kukral, a spokeswoman for the Office of the Surgeon General.

Anthrax tops DOD’s list of biological warfare agents for another reason;

the virus is tough to kill, said Dr. Graham Pearson, head of Britain’s chemical and biological defense establishment during the Gulf War.

Most microorganisms die quickly when exposed to sunlight or high temperatures, Pearson said, but anthrax can survive boiling water and has been known to live in contaminated soil for decades.

Normally associated with plant-eating animals, especially livestock, the virus is controlled through animal-vaccination programs, but still occurs in countries where animals are not vaccinated, chiefly in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, CDC officials said. □





Operation Noble Eagle

AT press time, more than 17,300 Army National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers had been called up to provide security at airports and other facilities around the country.

On Dec. 11, soldiers around the world remembered the victims of the Sept. 11 attacks with a moment of silence and the playing of the national anthem.

Mail delivery resumed to the Pentagon on Nov. 26, more than a month after it was interrupted because anthrax was found at the Washington, D.C., facility that processes the Pentagon's mail. The mail is now screened and X-rayed before delivery to recipients in the building.

Operation Enduring Freedom

ON Oct. 19, two Army rangers were killed in a helicopter accident in Pakistan. The soldiers were supporting raids on a Taliban site in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

On Nov. 14, U.S. forces rescued eight people, including two Americans, who were being held by the Taliban.

On Nov. 26, four soldiers and one airman were injured by U.S. bombs as they helped Afghan opposition forces put down a prison riot near Mazar-e Sharif.

On Dec. 5, three special forces soldiers were killed and 19 were injured when a U.S. bomb missed its target north of Kandahar.

On Dec. 7, 200 rangers returned to Fort Benning, Ga., from Afghanistan.

Throughout late December, U.S. military forces continued working with Afghan forces in the hunt for Al Qaeda troops in the Tora Bora region of eastern Afghanistan.

Soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division provided force protection at a former Soviet base outside of Kabul, Afghanistan.

Members of the Army Reserve in Germany packed the parachutes for humanitarian airdrops over Afghanistan, as well as working with active-duty soldiers and German soldiers to prepare the supplies for shipment. The soldiers packed between 100,000 and 200,000 pounds of supplies a day.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service has set up tactical field exchanges stores in Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Pakistan and Uzbekistan. Seventeen AAFES staff members volunteered for the deployment.

The Department of Defense expanded the list of areas in which soldiers are eligible for imminent-danger pay or hardship duty pay. Kyrgyzstan, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Uzbekistan were declared imminent-danger areas. Soldiers in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan qualify for hardship-duty pay. — *Compiled from Army and DOD sources*

Washington, D.C.

Army Realigns Headquarters

THE Army will streamline its staff at the Pentagon and centralize installation management, Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White said.

Funding for installations will now come directly from the Pentagon instead of through the major commands, White said. This will standardize funding levels and free up the MACOMs to focus on their primary missions.

Garrison commanders will report to the Army's assistant chief of staff for installation management through eight regional directors. Each of the new geographic regions will have 20 to 26 installations.

"That's probably the most controversial part of this transformation," said Army Vice Chief of Staff GEN John Keane about eliminating MACOM staffs from the day-to-day concerns of installation management. "It dramatically changes the way we do business."

At the Pentagon, White said his secretariat will be aligned with Army staff directorates. The principals of each ARSTAFF element will become the military deputy to the corresponding assistant secretary. And the principal staffs will be renamed G1 through G8. For instance, the deputy chief of staff for personnel will answer to the assistant secretary of the Army for manpower and reserve affairs. And DCSPER will be called G1.

The deputy chief of staff for intelligence will be G2. Operations and plans will be G3 and the deputy chief of staff for logistics will be G4. The director of information systems for command, control, communications and computers will be G6, and

the deputy chief of staff for programs will be G8.

White expects 700 to 800 positions to be eliminated in the realignment, but he said the purpose was to streamline the decision-making process, not to cut jobs. In fact, he said, the military positions eliminated at the Pentagon will be redistributed to the field and the money saved by eliminating redundant civilian positions will help fund priority Army requirements.

White said about 10,000 positions could be transferred to major commands under the realignment, which resulted from a four-month study and is part of the larger Army Transformation that began in 1999.

The realignment will more fully integrate the Army National Guard and Army Reserve into key positions of authority, to better address key issues and concerns of all components.

The realignment began in December and will be fully implemented by next summer, White said. The U.S. Army Audit Agency will monitor the implementation and account for alignment resources. — *Army News Service*

Washington

NCO-ER Gets New Rating Options

THE revised regulation on the Noncommissioned Officer Evaluation Report gives soldiers new rating options.

The last revision to the NCO-ER under Army regulation 623-205 occurred in 1992. This revision incorporates the new NCO-ER, DA Form 2166-8, and the NCO Counseling and Checklist, DA Form 2166-8-1.

Shortening the time required for completing the report is one of the changes in the new regulation, and it will be

one of the most pertinent for NCOs, said SGM Anthony Everette, chief of the Enlisted Evaluations Branch.

NCOs in the zone of consideration for promotion who have been in their current assignments at least 90 days will be able to get a complete-the-record report for promotion-board members to see.

Two optional reports are also being added to the regulation: the senior-rater-option report and 60-day-short-tour-option report.

Previously, a change of rater could generate a new report, but not a change of senior rater. An NCO-ER containing

only rater input is valid and is still reviewed by promotion-board members, but it doesn't offer the individual the benefit of the senior rater comments, Everette said.

On the NCO-ER's Part V, "Overall Performance and Potential," the senior rater has to mark a numeral from one to five, with one being the highest, to rate the NCO's performance and potential for promotion.

Having senior-rater comments on the NCO-ER is extremely important for NCOs being considered for promotion.

The other optional report to be added to the revised regulation is the 60-day short-tour

option. It will be granted in instances when NCOs are deployed overseas for 14 months or less and have more than 59 days but less than 90 days under their current rater. The rater may initiate a 60-day short tour option report.

A major change to the NCO-ER is that the values under Part V of the form now reflect the seven Army core values. Both the new NCO-ER and Counseling Checklist are available online at www.usapa.army.mil/forms/forms3.html.

The regulation changes are also outlined on the U.S. Total Army Personnel Command website at www.perscom.army.mil/ under MILPER messages. — ARNEWS

Army Heritage

Belvoir to Host Army Museum

FORT Belvoir, Va., was chosen by Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White as the site of the National Museum of the U.S. Army, scheduled to open in June 2009.

Currently the U.S. Army Center of Military History at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C., oversees 61 Army museums and museum activities located on Army installations throughout the world.

The Army, however, has no centralized museum dedicated to preserving and displaying the Army's heritage. Each of the Army's sister services either already has a centralized museum or is in the process of building one.

Construction of the Army museum will be funded privately through the Army Historical Foundation — a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the Army's heritage, said Steve Bavisotto, chief of museum programs for CMH's museum division. CMH officials expect that the museum will cost about \$90 million to build.

Fort Belvoir had earlier been ruled out as a possible site for the museum because officials felt the installation was too far from downtown Washington. But the post gained new support in 1999 when Sen. Strom Thurmond introduced legislation aimed at locating the museum there. In his bill, Thurmond said the post's proximity to the nation's capital and Mount Vernon make it a most suitable location.

Fort Belvoir also met the 17 criteria established by a site-selection committee — including its accessibility to public transportation and proximity to Washington — before winning approval from the National Capital Planning Commission. — ARNEWS

Alexandria, Va.

Park Deals for Soldiers, Families

WALT Disney World is offering free admission to active-duty military personnel from Jan. 1 to April 30 at its California and Florida attractions during "Disney's Armed Forces Salute."

Family members' admission tickets will be half price, and all tickets will be valid for a week from the date of issue.

If active-duty personnel, including Coast Guard and activated reserve-component members, can't visit the parks during the special period, their spouses may purchase the special-offer tickets once during the period for up to five family members and friends.

In addition, Universal Studios is offering free admission for active-duty personnel between Jan. 1 and April 30, 2002.

For the Florida parks, military personnel may use a four-day pass that will be accepted at Universal Studios, Islands of Adventure, and Wet 'n Wild. Up to five family members may purchase the four-day pass for \$71.50, plus tax. Shorter-term passes may be purchased at a 50-percent discount.

The offer also applies to Universal Studios Hollywood. Spouses and family members of personnel deployed overseas in support of Operation Enduring Freedom may take advantage of this offer without being accompanied by the service member.

For more information, contact your installation MWR office or contact Dan Yount at the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center via e-mail to Dan.Yount@cfsc.army.mil. — USACFSC PAO



The Walt Disney Company is offering special pricing for military families at its California and Florida attractions.

Courtesy Walt Disney Co.



The WHINSEC, which replaced the Cold War-era School of the Americas, is celebrating its first anniversary.

Fort Benning, Ga.

New School Celebrates First Anniversary

THE Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, which replaced the Cold War-era School of the Americas, has educated 700 students in its first year of operation.

The students — who come from the Americas and are military and law-enforcement officers and civilian leaders — learn about human rights, security and democracy.

Courses include medical-assistance training, disaster relief, counter-narcotics, border observation, peacekeeping and human-rights training.

Civilian professors and military and State Department instructors teach the courses at Fort Benning.

The courses are taught in Spanish, but school officials hope to add English-language instruction as more English-speaking students attend the institute. — WHINSEC PAO

Fort Monroe, Va.

E-Card Will Help With Studies

SOLDIERS in professional-development courses will soon be given a credit-card-size E-Card to help them with research projects.

The E-Card fits into a computer's CD-ROM drive. When inserted, it will automatically show the links to military websites and other distance-learning resources. When the soldier clicks on the name of the website, the connection is made.

"The cards will be given to soldiers attending courses above the basic training and advanced individual training levels," said COL Christopher Olson, director of the Training Development and Analysis Activity within U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command. Olson oversees development of the Army Distance Learning Program, for which the E-Card was developed.

When the system is completed in 2003, there will be 700 classrooms equipped to receive or originate interactive video and computer-based training across the network.

Students in the officer and NCO education systems, as well as distance-learning courses, will be given E-Cards.

Soldiers enrolled in eArmyU are issued computers

Personnel Update

Army Enacts Partial "Stop-Loss"

AN Armywide "stop-loss" program will keep soldiers in selected MOSs — mainly those in special operations and some in aviation — from leaving the service.

This selective stop-loss program allows the Army to retain soldiers with critical skills beyond their dates of separation for an open-ended period, officials said. They explained that soldiers affected by the order generally may not retire or leave the service as long as reserves are called to active duty or until relieved by the president, whichever comes first.

The enlisted specialties affected by this decision include MOSs 18B, special forces weapons sergeant; 18C, special forces engineer sergeant; 18D, special forces medical sergeant; 18E, special forces communications sergeant; 18F, special forces assistant operations and intelligence sergeant; 18Z, special forces senior sergeant; 00Z with Career Management Field 18 background; 67U, CH-47 helicopter repairer; 92M, mortuary affairs specialist; Reserve MOS 37F, psychological operations specialist; and Reserve MOS 38A, civil affairs specialist.

The commissioned officer specialties affected are in Career Management Fields 18, special forces commissioned officers, in the active and ready reserve components; 39, psychological operations commissioned officers on active-duty and the reserves; and 38, civil affairs commissioned officers in the reserves.

Warrant officers affected by the stop-loss include those in MOS 180A, special forces, and aviation warrant officers with the following specialties: 152C, OH-6 scout pilot; 153D, UH-60 pilot; 153E, MH-60 pilot; 154C, CH-47D pilot; and 154E, MH-47 pilot.

The stop-loss will also affect all warrant officers with the following Additional Skill Identifiers: K4, special operations aviation; K5, MH-60K pilot; and K6, MH-47E pilot.

No new requests for separation will be accepted from soldiers in categories affected by the stop-loss. Most involuntary discharges will not be affected by stop-loss, nor will stop-loss change any Army policies or regulations currently in effect that might lead to an administrative or medical discharge.

Additionally, officials said the selective stop-loss does not affect soldiers who meet their mandatory retirement dates. — ARNEWS

preloaded with the E-Card information. They should keep the cards they're given, officials said. When soldiers take future courses, they can use them again. If the system has added or deleted website links, the card will be automatically updated when it's inserted into a CD-ROM drive.

The E-Card is based on similar cards used in industry. On the plain side, the playing side, is a raised circle that fits into the CD recess in the computer. Once the E-Card fits into the recess and the tray is closed,

the Web sites on the E-Card are displayed. — *ARNEWS*

Washington, D.C.

Olympic Torch Pauses At Pentagon

THE Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Torch Relay paused at the Pentagon Dec. 21 and for the first time ever, before the next torchbearer began his stint in the relay, the torch was handed to 13 others whose lives were affected by the terrorist attack on the Pentagon.

"The ceremony was really very simple," said an Olympic official. "One flame, one torch, one moment of remembrance and tribute and one group united in conquering the future."

The ceremony began when Navy Chief Petty Officer Bernard Brown — whose 11-year-old son was killed aboard American Airlines Flight 77 — ran through a row of soldiers from the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard). Brown then passed the Olympic flame to the first of 13 others whose lives were changed by the Sept. 11 attack.

After a moment of silence, the last of the 13 passed the torch to SSG Christopher Braman, a Pentagon cook who helped evacuate the building. He held the torch high and is one of 11,500 torchbearers to carry the flame.

Army participants who passed the Olympic torch at the Pentagon included:

- LTC Brian Birdwell, military assistant to the deputy assistant chief of staff for Installation Management. He sustained burns to more than 40 percent of his body.
- Carl Mahnken and David Theall, public affairs specialists for the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, who assisted

other survivors and medical personnel despite being injured when their office was destroyed.

- SGT Gary Massoud, a member of The Old Guard, who served tirelessly along with his platoon during the recovery operations in the support area at the Pentagon.

- Teresa Maude, wife of LTG Timothy Maude, who represented the spouses of victims of the Pentagon attack. Maude was the deputy chief of staff for personnel.

- COL Philip McNair, executive officer to the deputy chief of staff for personnel, who helped his coworkers evacuate the burning building and then went back to the first floor to help save seven sailors.

- Keith Morris, the 17-year-old son of Odessa Morris, a budget analyst killed in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Personnel, who represented the children of the Pentagon dead.

- SGT Kenneth Noe from the Military District of Washington's Engineer Company, the Army's only collapsed building rescue company. Noe and members of his unit spent long hours and days sifting through the debris to locate and recover victims. — *ARNEWS*

Army Remembers

Former SMA Dies

RETIRED SMA Silas L. Copeland, 81, died Dec. 4 in Conroe, Texas, following a brief illness.

A veteran of World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars, Copeland was the third sergeant major of the Army, serving from October 1970 until his retirement in June 1973.

Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White said that with Copeland's death both the Army and the nation have lost a patriot, a soldier and a role model.

"His legacy endures today in our great noncommissioned officer corps — the envy of every military in the world," White said.

Army Chief of Staff Eric K. Shinseki said Copeland will be remembered first and foremost as a great soldier.

"SMA Copeland was a highly respected leader, a dignified man and a visionary whose positive and very profound influence on the character of our noncommissioned officer corps thrives nearly 30 years after his retirement," Shinseki said.

SMA Jack Tilley, the 12th sergeant major of the Army, credited Copeland with leading the Army through the difficult period following the Vietnam War, when the service reduced its strength from 1.3 million in 1970 to 788,000 three years later. The period also saw the Army transition to an all-volunteer force.

"SMA Copeland knew and understood soldiers, and he was instrumental in the quality-of-life initiatives that made the all-volunteer Army work," Tilley said. — *ARNEWS*



SMA Silas Copeland



David Theall passes the Olympic Torch to Army SGT Christopher Braman during the ceremony honoring the heroes and 184 victims of the Sept. 11 Pentagon attack.

Linda D. Kozaryn

DEFENDING



Members of Minnesota's Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Response Team search an area for "suspected contaminants" during their final certification at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

The Home Front

Story by MSG Bob Haskell Photos by Paul Disney



THE Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on America created a critical and urgent need for beefed-up security nationwide.

Soon after the attacks, Army Chief of Staff GEN Eric K. Shinseki told National Guard officials he wanted 17 new civil support teams — which can respond to chemical, biological and radiological threats anywhere in the country — ready to support homeland security. They were to supplement 10 existing CSTs.

By mid-November, 14 of the 17 teams had been organized to help firefighters, police and other civilian emergency responders. Then, months ahead of schedule, the teams were evaluated at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

Three other teams that have been organized and trained since spring 2000 were, at press time, scheduled to undergo their final tests for certification in early 2002, said LTC Gordon Fuller of the Tennessee Army National Guard.

Additionally, the Defense Department authorized full-time teams to be certified in Alabama, Kansas, Michigan, Tennessee and West Virginia in 2003. Twenty-four federally certified CSTs were on duty by November, as were thousands of Guard soldiers pulling security with police at 424 commercial airports.

President George W. Bush had announced that Guard soldiers would reinforce airport security checkpoints for up to six months, and he promised to increase the National Guard security force to 8,000 for the holiday season.



D.C. National Guard soldiers were called up to provide security for the Capitol Building, something which hadn't happened since the rioting of 1968.

Senior Master Sgt. Chris Martin

Guard soldiers patrolled railroad stations, bridges and tunnels. And state governors had called on Army and Air National Guard troops to help protect key structures in America's transportation system, from Grand Central and Pennsylvania stations in New York City to San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge.

Guard troops also reinforced security at nuclear power plants. And District of Columbia Army Guard military police helped U.S. Capitol Police provide security around the nation's capital.

In New York, meantime, some 200 Guard soldiers were called up for 90 days of security duty at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

And the CSTs from Colorado, Massachusetts and Texas are

MSG Bob Haskell works at the National Guard Bureau Public Affairs Office in Arlington, Va.

providing security for the Winter Olympic Games in Utah.

Earlier, the New York CST became part of the massive security force for the New York City Marathon and the three World Series games played at Yankee Stadium. And the first of California's two CSTs was pressed into service for the four World-Series games in Phoenix, Ariz.

New York's 2nd CST — one of the nation's original 10 — introduced federal and state agencies to the CSTs in general the day the two hijacked jetliners toppled the World Trade Center in lower Manhattan.

Members of the team spent several days testing "Ground Zero" for chemical and biological agents amid the smoking rubble and reassuring other emergency workers that terrorists had not used any of the deadly agents in the attack.

"I like this Guard team because it trains to do this 365 days a year," said Thomas Graham, commander of the New York Police Department's Disorder Control Team. "It has a



mobile lab and bio-chemical testing equipment that we don't yet have.

"We were always prepared to deal with explosives," said Graham, whose team was among those that responded when bombs blasted the World Trade Center in 1993 and the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in 1995.

Requests for CST assistance mounted when anthrax spores began showing up in the mail and people began theorizing about the possibility of more-deadly biological agents being released in the environment.

Even before it was federally certified, the Minnesota team was asked by Gov. Jesse Ventura to test parts of the state capitol, the governor's mansion and state mail centers for anthrax, said Air Guard Lt. Col. Earl Juskowiak, the team's commander. The tests were all negative.

New York Guard soldiers, meanwhile, were searching a steady stream of rental trucks and other vehicles randomly selected by police officers before being allowed to cross the East River into Manhattan. Guard troops were making sure that drivers' licenses and paperwork were in order, and that the vehicles weren't carrying cargo

that could create more terror for New York City.

"Most of the Guard troops are working on the Brooklyn end of the bridges, because we're more concerned about trucks going into Manhattan," said New York Police Sgt. Stephen Patino. "They can't take any direct action unless a police officer is present."

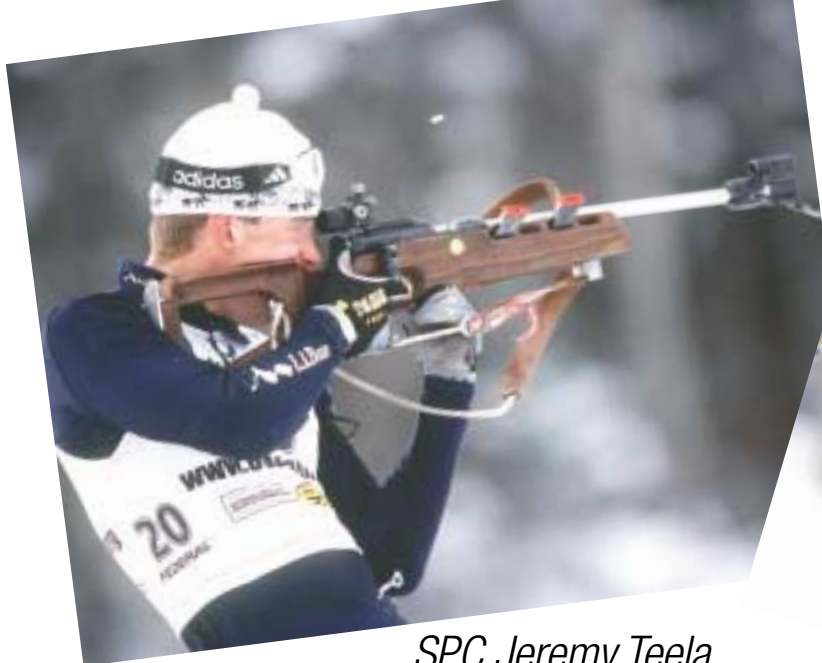
They were, however, in the right places at the right time to help civilian authorities close the bridges and tunnels leading to Manhattan on Nov. 12, after American Airlines Flight 587 crashed into a Queens neighborhood moments after taking off from JFK International Airport.

"You're up to the challenge. You are doing the job. We are so proud of you," N.Y. Governor George Pataki told Guard troops gathered at New York City's Park Avenue Armory.

"It's not practice. It's not training. It's not anything but the real thing," said MG George Garrett, commander of the New York Army Guard's 42nd Infantry Division. He is leading the task force that is helping to protect America's largest city. "We're running this just as if we were in Afghanistan getting ready to roll out our tanks." □



Members of the Virginia National Guard's 1st Battalion, 116th Infantry, begin a security shift at Dulles International Airport outside Washington, D.C. Dulles was the departure point for the airliner that slammed into the Pentagon on Sept. 11.



SPC Jeremy Teela



SPC Doug Driessen

Utah Gold

Story by Douglas Ide Photos by Robert Trubia

AFTER garnering slots on U.S. Winter Olympic teams eight soldier-athletes will be representing the United States at the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Utah.

SPC Doug Sharp and SPC Mike Kohn earned slots on the U.S. Olympic men's bobsled team, while SPC Jill Bakken earned a place on the women's bobsled team.

National Guard soldiers earned five of the eight slots on the biathlon team. Two other Guard soldiers are alternates for the U.S. team.

SGT Lawton Redman and SPC Jeremy Teela will represent the men in Utah, along with two civilian team members. SGT Kristina Sabasteanski, SPC Kara Salmela and SPC Andrea Nahrgang will compete with one civilian team member on the women's team.

Olympic trials were held at Soldier Hollow, Utah. The trials were open to any eligible athlete who had achieved 85 points on the autumn 2001 National Points list. Besides Nahrgang, other WCAP soldiers who met this criteria

SGT Kristina Sabasteanski

were SPC Doug Driessen, SGT Scott Doughty, SSG Dan Westover, 1LT Robert Rosser and 1LT Curtis Schreiner.

Four soldiers — two women and two men — had earned slots on U.S. national bobsled teams, allowing them to compete for spots on the U.S. Olympic team.

The 2002 Winter Olympics will be the first to have women's bobsled as a medal sport. Women compete in the two-woman competition only, which includes a driver and a push athlete/brakeman. The Army had one driver, SPC Jill Bakken, and one brakeman, SPC Shauna Rohbock, still competing for positions on the women's team in December.

Competing together, the two U.S. Army World Class athletes captured first place at the U.S. Bobsled National Team Trial, coming from a second-place finish on the first day of the trials to win the competition on day two.

Two soldiers earned slots on the



four-man team USA II, while a third soldier was named an alternate for the USA II team.

Sidepushers SPC Michel Kohn and SPC Douglas Sharp, along with brakeman Jeff Laynes and driver Brian Shimer, placed second during the first day of their competition and third on the second day, finishing second overall.

SPC Steven Holcomb was named an alternate for USA II. □

Douglas Ide works for the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center in Alexandria, Va. Robert Trubia is a Vermont-based free-lancer.

Rocky Mountain

Story by 2nd Lt. Virgil Magee



"This is a good value for our members who want to have a good time in the Colorado outdoors,"

THE Department of Defense has a new resort destination available to service members and civilian employees looking for snow-filled winter recreation or summertime sports activities.

Rocky Mountain Blue, a partnership between U.S. Air Force Space Command, the U.S. Air Force Academy and Keystone Resorts in Keystone, Colo., opened Nov. 5. The facility offers a variety of discounts to active-duty and reserve-component service members, retirees, and DOD and non-appropriated fund civilians.

RMB is the first step in determining if there is a market for a government-owned resort in the Colorado area, a decision that will be made in two or three years.

Keystone's 1,749 acres are served by 22 ski lifts, including two high-speed, six-passenger gondolas and three high-speed, four-passenger chair lifts.

Located just 90 minutes west of Denver, RMB is focused on outdoor activities such as skiing, horseback riding, mountain biking, hiking, ice-skating and golf. But it also advertises itself as "a mountain experience unlike any other, a year-round resort with two bustling villages that offer lodging, shopping, restaurants, nightlife, events and much more."

"This is a good value for our members who want to have a good time in the Colorado outdoors," said Col. Dave Estill, Air Force Space Command's director of services.

Keystone includes three mountains with groomed terrain that will test skiers and

Air Force 2nd Lt. Virgil Magee works for U.S. Air Force Space Command Public Affairs at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

Rocky Mountain Blue

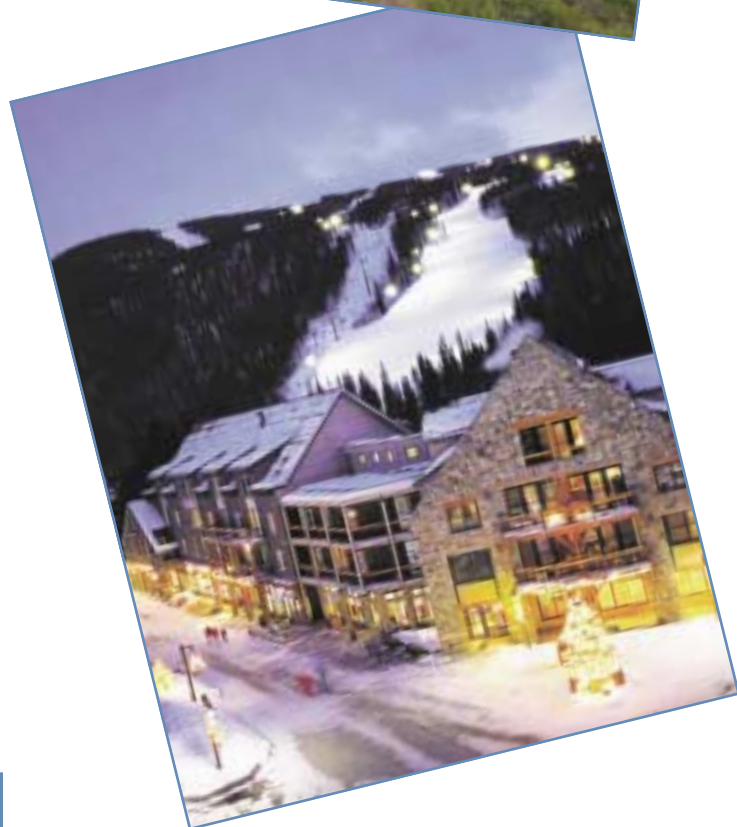


snowboarders of all levels and abilities. The premier trail, "North Peak," features several steep plunges that may be especially attractive to advanced skiers. But the resort also offers lessons for beginners — including one class for 3-year-olds.

The resort is home to the largest single-mountain night skiing experience in North America. Three lifts serve 288 acres of terrain until 8 p.m.

Visitors can also skate all day and evening on the five-acre Keystone Lake, the largest outdoor-maintained ice rink in the country.

Finally, for those who don't wish to indulge in snow sports, horse-drawn sleighs and stagecoaches take visitors for rides through the Snake River Valley to an authentic 1860s Old West cabin, where cowboys cook mouthwatering dinners over a campfire. □



To receive special discounts, DOD members must book their reservations through Colorado R and R, sales agent for Rocky Mountain Blue, on the Internet at www.coloradorandr.com.

For additional information about Rocky Mountain Blue, visit <http://rockymountainblue.com>.

NMTC THE NATIONAL MAINTENANCE



MAINTENANCE TRAINING CENTER

Story and Photos by SSG Jack Siemieniec



UCKED into the farmland of Johnston, Iowa, is a compound of buildings designed not to grow corn and soybeans, but a crop of better Army mechanics and maintenance units.

The National Maintenance Training Center, established at the Iowa National Guard's Camp Dodge over the last nine years, is the Army's only facility solely designed to train whole units in direct- and general-support levels of maintenance.

"This is all collective training," said MAJ Keith Moffett, the center's executive officer. "The maintenance unit comes here in total. There is a shop officer, who has to brief everything going on in the shop. You've got warrant officers running the shop, NCOs supervising and the soldiers actually turning the wrenches."

Moffett said the center is a "turn-key operation." His staff, made up of Active Guard and Reserve and active-duty soldiers, facilitates things and is there to answer questions when the need arises. But it's up to the visiting units to take charge, schedule jobs, repair and rebuild vehicles and their components, order parts as needed and replenish existing stocks for the next group of soldiers to rotate through.

"Privates, sergeants, warrant

officers — the whole company is all training. It's all tied together," he said.

Moffett said the units arrive for two weeks of intense, no-distraction maintenance.

"Most of the units that come here are reserve-component," he said. "On their weekend training, a lot of them don't have time to get really involved with the maintenance aspect. If the unit comes and turns a vehicle in on Saturday, by the time they get it inspected and parts ordered, the weekend is over. The next month they have to see what parts came in. So it's very difficult for them."

For active-duty units, the center

SSG Jack Siemieniec is an Army Reservist currently on active duty with U.S. Central Command at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

(Left) Wisconsin Army Guard SGT Matthew Carroll of Co. B., 132nd FSB, caulks a patch he's just put on the undercarriage of a Humvee.

(Right) Tennessee Guard members SGT Athlee Maness (left) and SGT Robert Jarrett of the 779th Maint. Co. remove valve springs as they disassemble an engine.





NMTC instructor CW2 Russell Boos (second from right) looks on as Tennessee Army Guard soldiers check the cam shaft injector timing on a Bradley fighting vehicle.

offers a chance to work on equipment and components they might not normally see the rest of the year.

SFC Paul Vallarde is first sergeant of the 94th Maintenance Company at Fort Stewart, Ga., one of several active units that have used the facility.

“Back at Fort Stewart, we have five major components that we work on, including engines and transmissions,” Vallarde said. “On components like the M1 Abrams transmission, we don’t rebuild them because we don’t have the proper equipment.”

But Vallarde said the center offers more than equipment.

“The good thing is when you get here, you’re task-free,” he said. “That is, you have no other missions than to rebuild. Here we know that for two weeks straight all the soldiers are going to do is just turn wrenches, and you see the glow on their faces when they walk in these doors.”

Moffett said the work comes from a variety of customers, including the Army Materiel Command’s Tank Automotive and Armaments Command, the National Guard Bureau, the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., and the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La.

SGM Dennis Norton, the chief operations NCO for the Iowa center, said there are three types of maintenance — bay shop, job shop and assembly line. The NMTC covers the first two. He said units have no requirement to bring their own vehicles or tools.



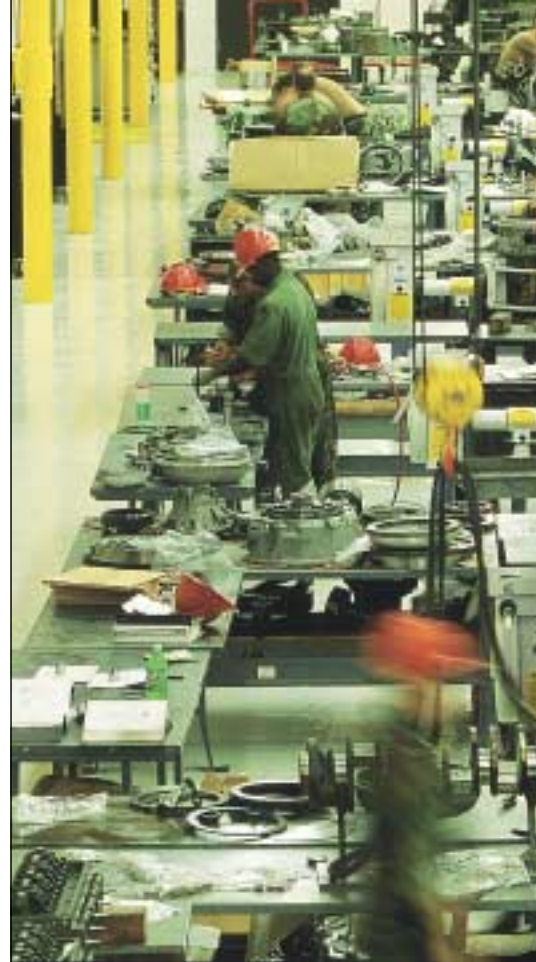
SGT Awet Tesfagiorgis of the 94th Maint. Co. at Fort Stewart, Ga., machines a fuel filter neck on one of NMTC’s lathes.

“The only thing they’re required to bring is their own personal protective equipment, such as safety glasses and safety boots,” he said.

The NMTC is a facility to train every aspect of direct and general support-level maintenance units. Its buildings house armament, optics, machine, welding, communication-electronics, and even fabric repair and paint shops.

Its bays hold anything from howitzers getting new recoil slides to tank transmissions being rebuilt.

Since its inception, the center has



“Privates, sergeants, warrant officers — the whole company is all training. It’s all tied together.”



trained more than 18,000 soldiers, spread over almost 200 units.

Norton said the center is part of a four-year training cycle designed to keep maintenance units proficient. The first year concentrates on individual soldier skills and personnel readiness at the unit level. The NMTC falls in the second year of the cycle, followed by a rotation at the NTC and culminating in an overseas or JRTC deployment. The next year the cycle restarts, because of personnel turnover.

While at the NMTC, the unit is evaluated on its performance, but only with regard to its work in the shops and bays and how soldiers meet the commander’s mission training plan.

“Units do get a training-assessment model,” Norton said. There is an



NMTC's general support maintenance bay shop area hums with a variety of work on any given training day.



Up-close and personal work is the norm at NMTC. Here a mechanic disassembles a Humvee gear hub spindle.



In NMTC's applied trades area, Wisconsin Army Guard soldier SPC Brooke Lysne sands a bumper before painting it.



SPC Paul Gregory (left) paints a rebuilt Humvee engine as SPC Bruce Bradford looks on. Both soldiers belong to the Fort Stewart-based 94th Maint. Co.

officer in charge in each shop, and they look at the unit and evaluate each section. But if the unit goes to the NTC, it gets evaluated on many items — such as how well the soldiers are setting up camouflage and fighting positions, and how well they're doing direct-support maintenance.

"Here, all they're getting evaluated on is their ability to perform direct

support and general support maintenance," Moffett explained.

Turner explained that while the active component has only four general support maintenance companies, the National Guard has 38.

The National Guard Bureau gave the Iowa Guard the mission to develop the lanes training concept.

The general support training center

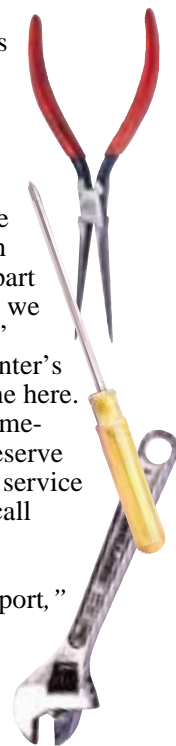
opened in 1992, and the direct-support side followed in 1995.

"It's more beneficial for us to bring our unit here because the training is more realistic," said CW2 Harold Renfro, an automotive support technician with the Tennessee National Guard's 779th Maint. Co. "The staff here is super to work with and, if we don't understand a part of the training, they make sure we understand it before we leave."

LTC Harold Turner, the center's director, knows why units come here.

"Annual training is the prime-time training for Guard and Reserve units. So, many times, combat service support units go to what they call their annual training," he said.

"They do not go to annual training, they go to annual support," he added. "Here they come to annual training. This is the doctrinal baseline they get to come back to and say: 'I can always go support an exercise, but if I don't have my ability to do my doctrinal baseline mission, I have no other place to go.'" □



MSG Bob Haskell



Martindale: Ministering at "Ground Zero."

Martindale said she cried as she drove to her home to tell her own children about the terrible things that happened that day.

MAJ Joanne Martindale felt America's pain when she told two young children at a New Jersey elementary school that their mom was missing on the evening of Sept. 11.

Martindale, a Presbyterian minister and chaplain for the New Jersey Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 150th Aviation Regiment — and single mother of two — was asked to deliver the heart-wrenching message to the 9-year-old son and 8-year-old daughter of the missing woman.

All Martindale knew was that the woman worked for a brokerage firm on the 102nd floor of the World Trade Center's North Tower. It was the first of the two towers hit by a hijacked jetliner and the second to collapse that morning.

Martindale left the Ancora Psychiatric Hospital in Hammonton, N.J., where she is the director of chaplaincy, put on her dress-blue Army uniform, and met the principal and the missing woman's closest friend at the school in Jersey City.

Then, she gently told the children, whose father had been killed in a car accident five months earlier, that their mother was missing because some bad people had done a very bad thing and had killed a lot of people.

Martindale, a minister since 1989, said she cried as she drove to her home to tell her own children about the terrible things that happened to this country that day.

Then she prepared to spend many more days consoling and counseling those who were laboring for untold hours at two of New York's most sorrowful places

— "Ground Zero" on lower Manhattan and an expansive, reopened landfill on Staten Island where the debris was being hauled.

Martindale was one of 10 New Jersey Guard and five Naval Militia chaplains called to state active duty to help hundreds of other Guard troops, FBI agents and New York City police officers and firefighters deal with their grief, their stress and their fatigue.

Faith in God and hope for better days are among the best things Martindale and other chaplains can offer to soothe spirits, they said.

The children, to whom Martindale had to break the tragic news of their mother's death, are to be adopted by their mother's best friend. — *MSG Bob Haskell, National Guard Bureau Public Affairs Office*

OCT. 23 was an electrifying day in the Balkans, as **Janet Cohen**, wife of former Secretary of Defense William Cohen, visited Eagle Base in Tuzla, Bosnia.

Cohen brought a few friends with her to entertain the soldiers, including recording artist **Clint Black**, Grammy award winner **Jon Carroll**, rising country star **Shane Minor**, comedian **Al Franken** and a couple of **New England Patriot Cheerleaders**.

But it was Cohen who brought the audience to its feet with her opening words of patriotism and support.

"Remember you are peacekeepers and you are humanitarians. The mission you perform here is very important," she said. "I can assure you that the American people are behind you."

Cohen also addressed soldiers' concerns about the continuing war on terrorism in the United States.

"The first responders to the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks were men and women in other uniforms. They were firefighters, police officers, emergency rescue workers, and doctors and nurses," Cohen said. Early on, active, Reserve and National Guard soldiers joined them. They are now watching the home front, "while you watch this front."

The program's patriotic theme continued as Carroll sang "The Star-Spangled Banner." Then, Minor, a former Los Angeles police officer, opened his set with a rendition of Charlie Daniels' "In America," a down-and-dirty, boot-stomping country tune with a strong patriotic message.

The Patriot cheerleaders then invited several soldiers onstage to help lead a cheer. And Franken, a former "Saturday Night Live" writer and performer, had soldiers rolling in the aisles with his jokes about the Taliban.

The show's headliner was Clint Black. The Academy of Country Music Award winner performed in a baseball cap, which he later traded for a black beret provided by **SPC David McCracken**, a National Guard soldier with the 29th Infantry Division. During Black's song, "Something That We Do," **MG H. Steven Blum**,

commander of the Multinational Division (North), and Cohen began to dance. Other soldiers soon joined in, dancing across the floor in front of the stage.

For soldiers of Stabilization Force 10, the Citizen-Patriot Tour provided a taste of home and a break from routine. For the entertainers it was a way of showing their appreciation to the military.

"I am here because I have a great love for the people who commit themselves to serve and protect our country," said Black. "I want to say thank you." — SGT Cheryn Priestino and SPC Tonya Vlahos, 382nd MPAD



Black: Entertaining in Bosnia.

VIRGINIA Army National Guard soldiers **2LT David Sutton** and **SGT Shelle Switzer** weren't exactly overwhelmed the first time they saw Ronald Reagan National Airport.

"I understand it's generally busier," said Sutton, who with a dozen or so other members of the Virginia Beach-based 229th Military Police Company helped civilian authorities safeguard the airport and its passengers and employees.

That was on Thursday, Oct. 4, the day the airport near Washington, D.C., reopened for business. The last airport in the country to reopen after the terrorist attacks, it had been closed since Sept. 11. And business was slow due to the limited number of flights available.

Sutton, a full-time Newport News, Va., police officer, and Switzer, a corrections officer at Virginia's Sussex State Prison, and other members of the 229th,

have been providing security at the Army National Guard's Readiness Center in Arlington, Va., since Sept. 11.

Other Virginia Army Guard troops underwent Federal Aviation Administration security training and reported to Reagan National Airport in October.

President George W. Bush announced on Sept. 27 that National Guard troops would reinforce security crews at 422 of America's largest civilian airports for four to six months. The intent is to give airports time to improve their security procedures and systems over the next half year.

Each state governor can decide which Guard troops to deploy and what they will do. But the job is the same — providing a military presence that includes monitoring and reinforcing security checkpoints, monitoring the alertness and performance of civilian screeners, and assisting screeners, supervisors and airport police.

Approximately 120 Maryland Army Guard soldiers began working security checkpoints at Baltimore-Washington International Airport and regional airports such as those in Hagerstown and Salisbury.

Some 350 Virginia infantrymen and field artillerymen were trained for duty at Reagan, Dulles International and seven other airports. New Jersey called on about 150 Guard soldiers, including members of the 42nd MP Co., for duty in Newark, Trenton and Atlantic City.

Vermont called about 20 military police and security force personnel to airports in Burlington and Rutland, and later replaced them with FAA-trained artillery and armor soldiers.

As many as 40 Guard soldiers from the 116th Cavalry Brigade were prepared for duty at six Idaho airports, and Colorado formed a 140-member force for 13 airports, including Denver International. — MSG Bob Haskell and SFC Eric Wedeking, NGB PAO

President Bush announced that Guard troops would reinforce security crews at 422 of America's largest civilian airports.

RETIRED GEN Wesley K. Clark recently joined CNN's ranks as a military analyst. The military strategist and decorated veteran will provide on-air analysis about military events worldwide.

A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., and a Rhodes Scholar, Clark served in the Vietnam War and helped train American forces for the Gulf War.

From July 1997 to May 2000 he was the supreme allied commander, Europe, a position in which he was responsible for safeguarding an area extending from the northern tip of Norway to the eastern border to Turkey, and oversaw almost 75,000 troops



Clark: CNN analyst.

from 37 NATO and other nations participating in ongoing operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo.

In 1999 Clark commanded Operation Allied Force, the successful military action in response to the Kosovo crisis and the largest air operation in Europe since World War II.

During that time Clark was also the commander in chief of the U.S. European Command, an area of operations spanning 89 countries and territories and more than 13 million square miles in Europe, Africa and the Middle East and involving more than 100,000 U.S. service members. — Megan Mahoney, CNN

Pay Char

MONTHLY
EFFECT

PAY GRADE	YEARS OF SERVICE							
	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	11
O-10	8944.80	9259.50	9259.50	9259.50	9259.50	9614.70	9614.70	10147.50
O-9	7927.50	8135.10	8308.50	8308.50	8308.50	8519.70	8519.70	8875.50
O-8	7180.20	7415.40	7571.10	7614.90	7809.30	8135.10	8210.70	8519.70
O-7	5966.40	6371.70	6371.70	6418.20	6657.90	6840.30	7051.20	7260.00
O-6	4422.00	4857.90	5176.80	5176.80	5196.60	5418.90	5448.60	5640.00
O-5	3537.00	4152.60	4440.30	4494.30	4673.10	4673.10	4813.50	5070.00
O-4	3023.70	3681.90	3927.60	3982.50	4210.50	4395.90	4696.20	4930.00
O-3	2796.60	3170.40	3421.80	3698.70	3875.70	4070.10	4232.40	4440.00
O-2	2416.20	2751.90	3169.50	3276.30	3344.10	3344.10	3344.10	3344.10
O-1	2097.60	2183.10	2638.50	2638.50	2638.50	2638.50	2638.50	2638.50
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS WITH OVER 4 YEARS ACTIVE								
PAY GRADE	YEARS OF SERVICE							
	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	11
O-3E	N/A	N/A	N/A	3698.70	3875.70	4070.10	4232.40	4440.00
O-2E	N/A	N/A	N/A	3276.30	3344.10	3450.30	3630.00	3760.00
O-1E	N/A	N/A	N/A	2638.50	2818.20	2922.30	3028.50	3130.00
WARRANT OFFICERS								
PAY GRADE	YEARS OF SERVICE							
	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	11
W-5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
W-4	2889.60	3108.60	3198.00	3285.90	3437.10	3586.50	3737.70	3880.00
W-3	2638.80	2862.00	2862.00	2898.90	3017.40	3152.40	3330.90	3430.00
W-2	2321.40	2454.00	2569.80	2654.10	2726.40	2875.20	2984.40	3090.00
W-1	2049.90	2217.60	2330.10	2402.70	2511.90	2624.70	2737.80	2850.00
ENLISTED								
PAY GRADE	YEARS OF SERVICE							
	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	11
E-9	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	3423.90	3500.00
E-8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2858.10	2940.60	3010.00
E-7	1986.90	2169.00	2251.50	2332.50	2417.40	2562.90	2645.10	2720.00
E-6	1701.00	1870.80	1953.60	2033.70	2117.40	2254.50	2337.30	2410.00
E-5	1561.50	1665.30	1745.70	1828.50	1912.80	2030.10	2110.20	2190.00
E-4	1443.60	1517.70	1599.60	1680.30	1752.30	1752.30	1752.30	1750.00
E-3	1303.50	1385.40	1468.50	1468.50	1468.50	1468.50	1468.50	1460.00
E-2	1239.30	1239.30	1239.30	1239.30	1239.30	1239.30	1239.30	1230.00
E-1 >4	1105.50	1105.50	1105.50	1105.50	1105.50	1105.50	1105.50	1100.00
E-1 <4	1022.70							

NOTE — BASIC PAY FOR O7-O10 IS LIMITED TO \$11,141.70
LEVEL III OF THE EXECUTIVE SCHEDULE

ts 2002

BASIC PAY TABLE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2002

2	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
ENLISTED OFFICERS							
107.50	10147.50	10873.80	10873.80	11601.90	11659.20	11901.30	12324.00
104.30	8874.30	9614.70	9614.70	10147.50	10293.60	10504.80	10873.80
99.70	8608.50	8874.30	9259.50	9614.70	9852.00	9852.00	9852.00
91.80	7472.70	8135.10	8694.90	8694.90	8694.90	8694.90	8738.70
88.60	5628.60	6305.70	6627.00	6948.30	7131.00	7316.10	7675.20
73.30	5413.50	5755.80	5919.00	6079.80	6262.80	6262.80	6262.80
60.20	5092.50	5255.70	5310.60	5310.60	5310.60	5310.60	5310.60
41.20	4549.50	4549.50	4549.50	4549.50	4549.50	4549.50	4549.50
34.10	3344.10	3344.10	3344.10	3344.10	3344.10	3344.10	3344.10
28.50	2638.50	2638.50	2638.50	2638.50	2638.50	2638.50	2638.50

2	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
ON-DUTY SERVICE AS AN ENLISTED MEMBER OR WARRANT OFFICER							
41.20	4617.00	4717.50	4855.20	4855.20	4855.20	4855.20	4855.20
38.90	3872.40	3872.40	3872.40	3872.40	3872.40	3872.40	3872.40
33.20	3276.30	3276.30	3276.30	3276.30	3276.30	3276.30	3276.30

2	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
WARRANT OFFICERS							
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4965.60	5136.00	5307.00	5478.60
35.30	4038.00	4184.40	4334.40	4480.80	4632.60	4782.00	4935.30
39.50	3558.30	3693.90	3828.60	3963.60	4098.30	4233.30	4368.90
33.90	3200.40	3318.00	3438.90	3559.80	3680.10	3801.30	3801.30
30.00	2963.70	3077.10	3189.90	3275.10	3275.10	3275.10	3275.10

2	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
ENLISTED MEMBERS							
41.30	3599.40	3714.60	3830.40	3944.10	4098.30	4251.30	4467.00
37.70	3110.10	3210.30	3314.70	3420.30	3573.00	3724.80	3937.80
36.40	2808.00	2892.60	2975.10	3057.30	3200.04	3292.80	3526.80
37.40	2499.30	2558.10	2602.80	2602.80	2602.80	2602.80	2602.80
33.30	2193.30	2193.30	2193.30	2193.30	2193.30	2193.30	2193.30
32.30	1752.30	1752.30	1752.30	1752.30	1752.30	1752.30	1752.30
38.50	1468.50	1468.50	1468.50	1468.50	1468.50	1468.50	1468.50
39.30	1239.30	1239.30	1239.30	1239.30	1239.30	1239.30	1239.30
35.50	1105.50	1105.50	1105.50	1105.50	1105.50	1105.50	1105.50

NOTE — BASIC PAY FOR O6 AND BELOW IS LIMITED TO \$9,800.10
LEVEL V OF THE EXECUTIVE SCHEDULE

Soldiers
The Official U.S. Army Magazine

Postmarks

Compiled by SSG Alberto Betancourt

From Army Posts Around the World

PVT Emma Hayes



"Welcome home" signs were everywhere at Fort Bragg to mark the return of the 82nd Avn. Bde. soldiers.

Fort Bragg, N.C.

Fort Bragg Soldiers Redeploy

FAMILY and friends gathered in the middle of the night to welcome back about 160 Fort Bragg soldiers who redeployed after seven months in Bosnia where, as part of Task Force Eagle, they supported the NATO-led stabilization force.

"Welcome Home" placards and balloons decorated Pope Air Force Base's Green Ramp, where soldiers of the 82nd Airborne Division's Aviation Brigade disembarked.

While at Comanche Base, the brigade's aviation elements trained intensively and conducted reconnaissance and security missions and air movement operations, said CPT Jack Murphy, assistant operations

officer. "There's a very high operational tempo for aircrews in Bosnia. Our crews flew three times as many flights as they would on a normal deployment mission."

"Morale stayed high," said CPT Craig Alia, commander of Company A, 1st Battalion. "Everyone was getting tired toward the end, but we stayed focused." — PVT Emma Hayes, 82nd Airborne Division Public Affairs Office

Fort Lewis, Wash.

U.S.-Japanese Exercise

AFTER a year's preparation, the eighth annual fall combined arms live-fire exercise at Fort Lewis' Yakima Training Center between U.S. and Japanese soldiers almost didn't happen.

"Thanks to I Corps' support, we were able to successfully conduct this training exercise during the very busy times after the terrorist attacks," said Maj. Gen. Haruyoshi Endo, vice commanding general of the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force's 9th Division, North Eastern Army.

The exercise scenario gauges Japan's ability to react to a possible attack.

"Because of training-area limitations in our country, it's impossible for us to fire our weapons using their maximum capabilities," Endo said. "Here, we're able to fire our weapons at maximum capability, so we're able to conduct real-world training."

In Japan, he said, soldiers can only fire the heavy anti-tank missile and the TOW at ranges of about 2,000 meters. At the training center, they can fire the weapons at close to their 4,000-meter maximum range.

"This exercise is a continuation of a strong bilateral engagement with Japan," said BG William H. Brandenburg, deputy commanding general for training and readiness at I Corps and Fort Lewis. "We go to Japan for an exercise every year, and Japanese units come to Yakima Training Center to conduct an exercise."

Besides offering an opportunity to maneuver in large areas at YTC, the exercise allows soldiers of both countries to work closely together, said Brandenburg.

Additionally, the Japanese were able to fire all their weapon systems simultaneously, Endo said.

Japanese soldiers load a Type 90 tank — bound for Yakima Training Center, Wash. — aboard a trailer at the Port of Tacoma.

"Last year we fired the multi-purpose missile system for the first time," said Sgt. Takashi Wakasugi. "The system was tested for short-distance targets by army headquarters in Japan. We took the data from last year's long-distance testing and improved it for this year's exercise."

Next year, I Corps soldiers will get their chance to train with soldiers of the North Eastern Army during Yama Sakura XXXXI. — SGT Reeba Critser, Fort Lewis PAO

Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo

Morale-Boosters on the Way

AN important letter on the desk of COL Vincent Brooks — Task Force Falcon deputy commander, East, in Kosovo — almost didn't make it. "Dear Soldier," wrote Jacob Ayub, a first-grader in Georgia. "I salute you for all that you do. Your Friend, Jacob."

Jacob's letter, with about 900 boxes of donated books, tapes and other items, was scheduled to be shipped from

SSG Robert Albion





Soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division prepare to unload a pallet full of goodies at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo.

Georgia to Kosovo to boost the spirits of 3rd Infantry Division soldiers deployed there, when the terrorist attacks occurred.

"The impact of Sept. 11 affected all travel, even cargo travel," said Brooks. He said the packages could not be shipped from any of the nearby Air Force bases because all

flights were targeted for other missions, or grounded, due to the attacks.

"We were told to break open the boxes and distribute the items back to family members," said Brooks' wife, Carol.

Army Community Services volunteers, the division's 1st Brigade rear detachment commander, and others, however, had other ideas.

Casey Craig, a member of the 11th Engineer Battalion's Family Support Group, contacted Michael Wilhelm, vice president of ABF Freight Systems.

Wilhelm, a former service member, secured his company's approval to ship the cargo more than 700 miles from Georgia to Dover Air Force Base, Del.

In the meantime, Anne Bergstrom of U.S. Army, Europe's morale, welfare and recreation office offered ideas on how to ship MWR items to soldiers. And CPT Roemo Wright and CPT Stephen

Collins, both from Task Force Falcon's logistics office, found a way to get the packages shipped from Dover.

The collaboration paid off when Allan McCosh, the liaison officer between the Defense Logistics Agency and the 3rd Inf. Div. logistics task force, got the goods to Camp Bondsteel and Camp Montieth. — *CPT Daniel Byer, 3rd Inf. Div. PAO*

Ramstein AB, Germany

Soldiers Contribute to Afghan Relief

SOLDIERS and airmen united during a long holiday weekend in Germany to help Afghans get much-needed food.

Forty-six members of the 21st Theater Support Command's 5th Quartermaster Co. and 20 members of the 37th Airlift Squadron Air Delivery Flight built new airdrop-container delivery systems and packaged them with humani-

tarian daily rations.

They spent a day filling two Air Force cargo planes with approximately 35,000 rations, said CPT Jason Soriano, commander, 5th QM Co.

"Working with airmen is nothing new for our soldiers. We work with these guys everyday," he said. What was new for the airmen and soldiers was the Tri-wall Air Delivery, or TRIAD, system, said Air Force Master Sgt. Samer Alkhoury, an aerial delivery flight superintendent.

The TRIAD uses reinforced cardboard boxes designed to come apart in the air. The roughly 410 rations in each box then fall to the ground.

The system does not use parachutes. Gravity forces the TRIAD out of the plane. The static line then pulls and cuts a gate that's attached to the box as it leaves the aircraft, then the bottom and top fall away and the rations "float" to the ground, Alkhoury said. — *MSG Sue Harper, 21st TSC PAO*



Environmental Front

Compiled by Cynthia Houston

Army Stewardship Reflected in Earth Day

FOR the Army, fighting and winning hinge on being equipped, trained and ready, and on having the resources to support those objectives.

And the resources are more than state-of-the-art weapons and "sandbox" exercises. A critical, indispensable resource is land on which to train and hone skills needed to use state-of-the-art weapons to their full capacities, plan and execute battle strategies, and organize and launch an attack.

Yet, the Army is "losing" its land. Years of live-firing weapons and driving tanks across training sites have taken their toll on the environment. Also, once-isolated posts now border civilian communities, and public outcry about noise and potential pollution limit the training that can take place.

As the Army proceeds toward its 21st-century transformation, it will need more land, not less.

That's why, since 1995, the

Army has celebrated Earth Day. The annual Earth Day observance gives soldiers and civilians living and working on Army installations an opportunity to concentrate on the critical role the environment plays in supporting the broad spectrum of Army missions.

Earth Day is a time to renew promises to be responsible stewards of natural resources, and to share information about actions the Army is taking to sustain land entrusted to its care.

Some installations are planning weeklong activities to commemorate Earth Day 2002, which this year falls on Monday, April 22. Following are event ideas provided by Army installations in the United States and abroad last year:

- Invite local automobile dealers to bring environmentally friendly new car models to your event.
- Conduct a recycle fair.
- Link Earth Day events to other events in the community.
- Plant more than a tree — plant a riparian forest buffer of selected vegetation that protects and replenishes the waters in nearby streams and rivers.
- Hold a workshop concerning environmental issues that threaten readability

ness at your installation.

- Plan environmental-project milestones to coincide with Earth Day for maximum "good news story" impact.

The U.S. Army Environmental Center provides information and planning materials for Earth Day activities at your installation. Visit USAEC online at <http://aec.army.mil> for ideas, downloadable resources and order forms for this year's Army Earth Day poster. You may also contact the Army Earth Day program manager, Deborah Elliott, at (410) 436-1272, or (DSN) 584-1272. Her e-mail address is deborah.elliott@aec.apgea.army.mil. — Deborah Elliott, Army Earth Day Coordinator

Unit Earns "Super Trash Can" Title

THE Combat Equipment Battalion, Luxembourg, has earned a prestigious environmental certificate with an amusing name. The *Superdreckskescht* — which means "Super Trash Can" — has certified CEB-LU and its contract service partner, Warehouse Services Agency.

The Super Trash Can certification program is the product of a partnership between the government of Luxembourg and waste-disposal companies, and is awarded by the Luxembourg Ministry for the Environment and the Chamber for Professions.

The list of criteria for the

The Army is helping to preserve the quality of life on Earth by doing its part to protect natural resources.



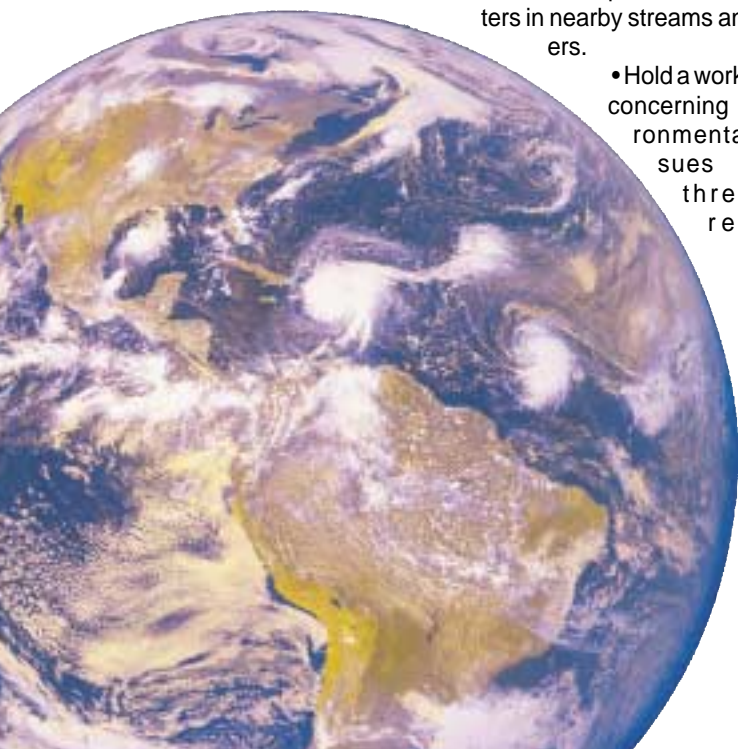
The U.S. Army Combat Equipment Battalion, Luxembourg now uses this "Super Trash Can" logo to indicate certification by the Superdreckskescht.

Super Trash Can certification is extensive and includes items such as employee motivation, safe and environmentally sound storage, clear sorting, and proper reuse and disposal of waste.

MAJ Howard Christie, support operations officer for CEB-LU, said that the successful certification resulted from the close partnership between CEB-LU and Warehouse Services Agency. "Keeping Army pre-positioned equipment and materiel in combat-ready condition generates a lot of waste," he said. "So we welcomed the challenge of earning the certificate." — Operations Support Command

MRE Heaters Pose Compliance Challenge

EVERY Meal Ready to Eat has one. It's a good bet that a soldier



spending a day or longer on an Army range is carrying a flameless ration heater; the Army issues millions every year.

Concerns arise, however, when soldiers throw unused heaters in with "regular" trash. Most environmental regulators view discarded, unused FRHs as reactive hazardous waste, since they contain compounds that heat up when activated by water.

The Environmental Protection Agency listed discarded unused heaters as "reactive," both in a May 1999 letter to the Soldier Systems Center in Natick, Mass., and in a recent notice of violation at a large troop installation in the South. An incident in which inactivated FRHs turned up in a trash shipment from the installation to a landfill sparked that notice.

Installations where flameless ration heaters are used must establish procedures to ensure unused heaters aren't thrown out with the regular trash, said Robert Shakeshaft, hazardous waste media manager for the U.S. Army Environmental Center. This is especially important during training exercises, when a large number of unused heaters might be discarded.

Used heaters don't pose the same hazards. At the end of the heating cycle, only inert substances remain, mainly cardboard, a polyethylene bag and magnesium hydroxide. These have no adverse impacts on human health or the environment and can be placed in any landfill.

To manage unused FRHs, Army installations have several options, each beginning with an ironclad collection method. The unspent heaters can be turned in to the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office for reuse, transfer, dona-

tion or sales; sold through a qualified recycling program, returned to the manufacturer, activated according to local hazardous waste generator regulations, or disposed of as hazardous waste in a permitted facility, Shakeshaft said.

Meanwhile, the Soldier Systems Center is working on a long-term solution to the FRH challenge. The center, which is part of the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., is developing two new ration heaters that don't release a flammable gas. These



Flameless ration heaters could be classified as hazardous waste if not used to heat food. Used heaters, however, can be placed in any landfill.

devices are now going through rigorous health-risk and regulatory assessments to ensure they'll comply with future envi-

ronmental standards.

Both heaters performed well during an August 2000 field evaluation at Fort Wainwright, Alaska. Soldiers found them as acceptable as current FRHs. The manufacturers and SBBCOM continue to work on weight, cost, performance and mass-production issues. The command will report on its analysis of these issues, as well as the new FRH's compliance with environmental regulations, to a board of joint service representatives in fiscal 2002.

In the near term, an instruction label on new FRHs will advise soldiers not to place unused heaters in the trash.

For more information, contact the USAEC Compliance Branch at (410) 436-7069, or e-mail the agency at compliance@aec.apgea.army.mil. — U.S. Army Environmental Center



Environmental Sharp Shooters

MILITARY and civilian photographers will be recognized for their achievements in support of the Army's environmental program in the April edition of *Soldiers*. Check out this special "Environmental Sharp Shooters" feature to see what's going on at the Army's Environmental Front.

Please send your contributions or questions to Cynthia Houston, National Outreach Team Leader, U.S. Army Environmental Center, 5179 Hoadley Road, Attn.: SFIM-AEC-PA, Bldg. 4415, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21010-5401, or e-mail Environmental.Front@aec.apgea.army.mil. Houston can be reached by phone at (410) 436-1270 or (DSN) 584-1270.

Muslim and

Story by Beth Reece Photos by Paul Disney

IDENTITY does not elude CPT Abdul-Rasheed Muhammad. Born and raised by Baptist parents in Buffalo, N.Y., he loves a good movie, the Seattle SuperSonics, his wife and freedom.

Muhammad is an American citizen and soldier. But lately he's been the subject of nosy stares and apologetic glances. Sometimes people peer at him with suppressed anger. But Muhammad — one of seven million American Muslims and the U.S. military's first Muslim chaplain — understands the source of the anger and curiosity.

"People are concerned. They wonder what it is about the Islamic faith that they do not know, what about it has caused terrorists to strike out against America," he said from behind his desk in the Department of Ministry and Pastoral Care at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

The chaplain fears humanity's capacity for hatred. He is appalled by reports that Taliban militiamen in Afghanistan have raped women and trafficked in opium, heroin and weapons.

"Major, major sins," the chaplain said. "These things are far removed from Islam. A true Muslim's conscience would not allow such acts, nor could a Muslim think he would go to paradise for taking the lives of innocent people."

Like Christianity and Judaism, Islam acknowledges one God as the divine ruler of heaven and earth. It also exalts kindness and tolerance, Muhammad said.

"But human beings have the capacity to be oppressors and to use



CPT Abdul-Rasheed Muhammad — the U.S. military's first Muslim chaplain — is currently assigned to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

religion or politics to gain and exert power," he said. He emphasized that many Muslims have rejected the Taliban's acts in the same way that many Catholics have rejected the aims and actions of the Irish Republican Army.

Many Americans simply don't

understand Islam, Muhammad said. "Muslims must educate others about what Islam really is," he said. Compassion among people — Christian, Muslim or Jew; white or black; rich or poor — emerges from an understanding of the past.

"In order to understand Islam, one must know something about its history," Muhammad said. "Not having that information would be similar to trying to understand the Christian faith without knowing something about what took place in Nazareth and Bethlehem."

Many of today's false impressions stem from the assumption that Islam is theologically entwined with the cultures of the regions where Islam prevails, he said. The assumption that Muslim women are degraded and deprived of education, for example, is untrue. Islam itself does not thwart a woman's potential. In Afghanistan, for example, it's the Taliban regime that limits freedoms. It is a system rather than a religion that denies what most nations uphold as birthrights.

Muhammad said it is his privilege and pledge as a Muslim chaplain in the Army to illuminate the little-known truths of his faith. In addition to

Soldier

A close-up, low-angle shot of a man with a shaved head, wearing a black and white checkered button-down shirt. He is looking down with a focused expression, his hands held in front of him in a prayer position (Anjali Mudra), with palms facing each other and fingers pointing upwards. The background is dark and out of focus.

leading Muslim services and planning events that help others strengthen their relationships with God, he extends his services to all soldiers, regardless of their religious beliefs.

The Path

Muhammad has always felt the push of invisible hands. There were times when he mingled with the wrong crowd, when he could have been killed, but wasn't. There was also the persistent intuition that religion was more than he'd been taught or under-

stood — "with all due respect to the way my parents raised me," he said.

At the State University of New York, Muhammad majored in anthropology with an emphasis in comparative religion. How fascinating, he thought then, that people everywhere worship something greater than themselves — in their own ways, but for the same purpose.

"I'd had difficulty accepting Jesus as God, but I respected my parents, and I always did what my father told

Workers at Walter Reed AMC sit in quiet meditation in the hospital's Islamic Prayer Room. There are some 7 million Muslims in the United States.

me to do," he said. When the time came for Muhammad to make his own decisions, he openly explored his spirituality.

At 20 — after a deep attraction to the charisma and faith of Malcolm X, and enlightened by English versions of the Koran, Islam's holy book — Muhammad made Islam his religion of choice.

Though Muhammad's parents raised 11 children and instilled in them the importance of providing for the family, the church-going pair kept mum about their son's resolution. It



Chaplain Muhammad's son, Haroon, watches his mother Saleema make a salad in preparation for fast breaking at the end of the day during the holy month of Ramadan.

wasn't until after he joined the Army as a chaplain's assistant, had reclassified as a supply specialist, left the Army and eight years later was commissioned as the Army's first Muslim chaplain that his parents verbally blessed their son's religious choice.

It was a day he treasures: Friday, Dec. 3, 1993. "My parents were asked all kinds of questions they weren't prepared to answer," Muhammad said of the day reporters trailed him and his family through the Pentagon after a high-profile commissioning ceremony.

"Imagine what it was like for them," he said. "They were average African-American people who had never before been the subject of media attention."

Someone from the Buffalo News asked Muhammad's father what kind of child the new chaplain had been. "This kid here, I never had any problem with him. Not one day in my life," Muhammad's father said.

"I've come to realize that this was his way of saying, 'Who am I to question the decisions my son has made?' I'd made other decisions that were good, so maybe he thought this one was just as good as any of the others, even though he didn't understand it," Muhammad said.

Religion soon became a favored subject for the chaplain's father.

"I think our talks about Islam strengthened my father's faith," Muhammad said. "Though he didn't understand God from my perspective, I think he came to see how God was moving in my life, and we'd always been taught that anything good comes from God."

Ready to Defend

Defense Department officials estimate that approximately 4,000 Muslims wear U.S. military uniforms. Muhammad thinks there are probably three times that number based on attendance at religious services, plus the fact that not all soldiers reveal their religious preferences. The Army alone has seven Muslim chaplains.

Since the Sept. 11 attacks, Muhammad has not advised a single soldier who questions whether a Muslim's loyalty should be to Islam or to America.

"We live here, work here, pay taxes here and contribute here," he said. "We are Americans in every sense and

we want to defend our rights to enjoy all of these freedoms."

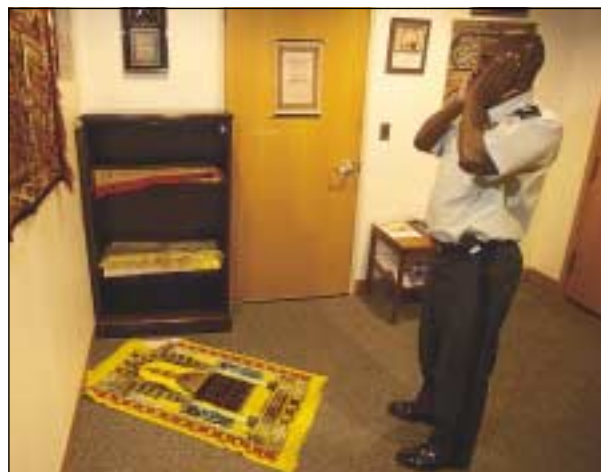
Muhammad doesn't believe that America is "out to get" Muslims. "There are seven million of us living right here. It would seem to me that if the United States were about the business of destroying Islam, it would start right here. Look at me. I'm a chaplain in the United States Army. Why would I exist if the U.S. wanted to destroy Islam?"

Though Muslim soldiers may be sympathetic toward fellow Muslims living in Afghanistan, Muhammad said most American Muslims were leery about halting U.S. military operations for the sake of such religious holidays as Ramadan, when Muslims fast.

Muslims have already fought and won wars during Ramadan, such as the 7th century Battle of Badr, when the Muslims were outnumbered 10 to 1 by the pagan Arabs.

"Yet they won this battle decisively," the chaplain said, adding that today's circumstances allow American Muslim soldiers to defend what America has lost and all that has been taken away from Islam.

Terrorism has fueled Americans' devotion to the nation, Muhammad



Muslims pray five times a day while facing Mecca, the holy city where Allah and his word were revealed to Muhammad.

*"I've sworn to work for the good of America,
and I'll gladly do that as both a chaplain and as a soldier."*



Chaplain Muhammad chats with Air Force Chaplain Brian McCormack outside Walter Reed hospital's Islamic Prayer Room.

said, but still the U.S. has not reached its pinnacle.

"There's never been a country like this in the history of the world, where people learn to coexist religiously, socially, culturally, racially, economically, ethically," he said. Though personal distinctions may rouse anger, Americans are still united.

"I think all that is happening now is taking us to a point at which we will eventually reach our greatest pinnacle and have a deeper understanding of one another," Muhammad said. "We have much to be proud of, and much still to accomplish."

The Sept. 11 terrorists were not true Muslims, he said, and they were not martyred. The victims who died that day were the true martyrs and died — like soldiers on a battlefield — for America's virtue.

"I'll go to my grave believing that," Muhammad said. "I've sworn to work for the good of America, and I'll gladly do that as both a chaplain and as a soldier." □

Understanding Islam

DR. Dave Damrel is desperate to make a point: Islamic terrorism is a contradiction of terms.

"When people think of Islam, they have all these automatic stereotypes of Muslims dressed a certain way, of the desert and of camels," said Damrel, who teaches world religion at Arizona State University and specializes in Islam.

Second only to Christianity, Islam is one of the fastest growing religions in the world. Its 1.2 billion followers make up a quarter of the world's population, and the vast majority live in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

According to Amir Hussain, a Muslim and California State University professor of religious studies, about one-third of the Muslims in the United States are Middle Eastern, one-third are African-American and one-third are South Asian.

"Islam" means "submission" in Arabic, and shares the God of the Christian and Hebrew bibles. Closely related to Judaism and Christianity, Islam is a monotheistic faith that supports generosity, compassion and kindness.

"It's seen as having a kind of family relationship with both religions, meaning that all three share critical religious figures, as well as ideas and world views," Damrel said.

Although Islam affirms such prophetic figures as Abraham and Jesus, Muslims believe that Muhammad — a 7th century merchant — is the final prophet. God, or Allah in Arabic, revealed himself to Muhammad through the angel Gabriel. Muhammad then recorded God's word into the Koran, the Muslim holy book.

Muslims are action-oriented believers. They devote themselves to the Pillars of Islam to strengthen their faith and submit to God. The first pillar is a believer's declaration that there is no other God but Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet. Prayer is the second pillar, and Muslims pray five times a day while facing Mecca, the holy city where Allah and his word were revealed to Muhammad.

The third pillar of faith is charity. Rather than frowning upon materialism, Islam encourages followers to share their belongings with the less fortunate. Many of those who are able are asked to give two and a half percent of their capital to charity.

Islam's fourth pillar is the observance of Ramadan, when Muslims fast during the ninth month of the lunar calendar to commemorate the time when Muhammad received his first revelation. Though money and health may limit a Muslim's opportunity to make a pilgrimage to Mecca, this fifth pillar of the faith is considered a sacred duty.

"Islam is a religion that has many of the same values as conservative Christianity," said Arizona State University professor Dr. Mark Woodward, who has lived and traveled throughout the Muslim world.

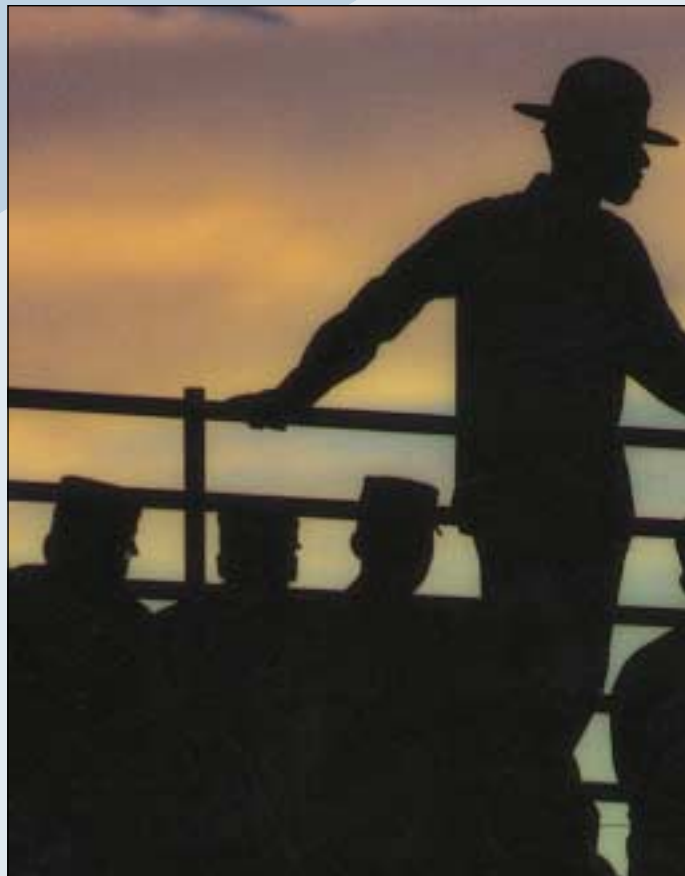
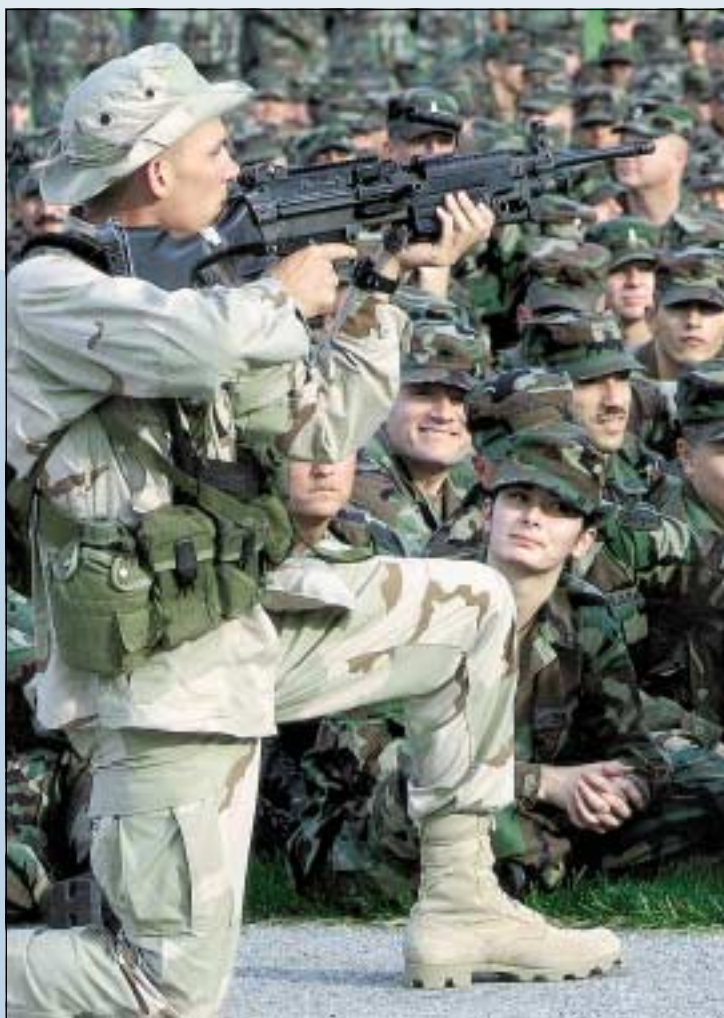
"It places a great deal of emphasis on personal piety, and on personal and public morality," he said. "Basic Muslim values would go over real well with Southern Baptists." — *Adriane Foss*

Adriane Foss is associate editor of the Inside the Turret newspaper at Fort Knox, Ky.

Sharp Shooters

Photos by Wayne N. Curtis

Besides being the home of the Total Force's Maneuver Support Center, U.S. Army Chemical School and Military Police School, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., is a basic combat training hub that annually trains more than 16,000 soldiers. On these pages Wayne N. Curtis, a photographer for the installation, captures the many roles these soldiers play throughout the year.



(Clockwise, from left)

During a ceremony, SSG Alex Payne demonstrates the proper one-knee shooting position.

A drill sergeant overlooks his troops during a Special Olympics opening ceremony.

The Maneuver Support Center's color guard leads the way during a Memorial Day Parade in St. Louis.

SSG Jorge L. Colon Jr. of Company D, 3rd Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment, gives his troops a sign of encouragement.

SFC Louis Lopez serves as a color guard for the post's Drill Sergeant School.



Standard photo submissions for Soldiers Sharp Shooters can be mailed to Photo Editor, **Soldiers, 9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581**. Photo submissions of digital images should be directed to alberto.betancourt@belvoir.army.mil. All submissions must include an introductory paragraph and captions.

VICTORY STR

Story by SGT Brent Hunt and Bill Roche Photos by Paul Disney



(Main photo) CW2 William Knisley looks out his canopy at the other Apaches in his flight while at a forward arming and refueling point in Drawsko Pomorskie.

(Top right) An Apache skims the trees at speed after a flight demonstration at DPTA.

IKELL



VS II WAS THE LARGEST RECENT U.S. TROOP MOVEMENT IN EUROPE.

EXERCISE Victory Strike II brought together some 4,000 U.S., Polish, Italian and British troops, among them soldiers from the 130th Engineer Brigade and 11th Aviation Regiment — both part of the U.S. V Corps in Germany. The exercise also represented the largest U.S. troop movement in Europe in recent history.

But V Corps commander LTG William Wallace said the deployment of troops to the exercise sites, Poland's Drawsko Pomorskie and Wedrzyn training areas, shortly after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States, was "business as usual for the corps. It was an opportunity for corps units to strengthen their ability to deploy rapidly."

Geared primarily toward honing rapid-deployment skills, the exercise allowed the corps' attack aviation units to get realistic

SGT Brent Hunt and Bill Roche work at the V Corps Public Affairs Office in Heidelberg, Germany.



(Left) SGT Joe Toombs, SPC Starsky Hudson and SSG Glen Strobach from the 197th Maint. Co. perform a diagnostic test on a Patriot radar belonging to 5th Bn., 7th ADA Regt.

(Left, above) PFC Curt Garrison races to the top of a building in the Wedrzyn Training Area's MOUT site to get a better view of incoming "enemy" aircraft.

(Above) Air traffic controllers SPC Robin Gonzales and PFC Austin Hicks "work" aircraft in the pattern at Drawsko Pomorskie's airfield.

(Right) SGT Royce Adams gives tips to Stinger gunner PFC Curt Garrison before an Apache "attack."

THE SYSTEMS CAN TRACK EVERY ELEMENT ON THE BATTLEFIELD,

deep-strike training. With simulated close-air support from U.S. Air Force F-16s from Aviano Air Base, Italy, AH-64 Apache helicopters from the 11th Avn. Regt. and 1st Infantry Division flew missions against an opposing force composed of U.S. and Polish air defense units.

Meantime, elements of the 130th Engr. Bde. helped rebuild two schools near the training area.

The September 2001 exercise also introduced "Strike CP," a command

post housed in rapidly deployable modular units. First-time use of the system by V Corps gave the commander and his staff a compact, state-of-the-art "nerve center."

At the same time, V Corps soldiers field-tested new battlefield tracking systems for the first time in a large-scale exercise, said CPT George Walter, plans officer for the Directorate of Training in the 7th Army Training Command's Deployable Operations Group in Grafenwöhr, Germany.

Developers hope the systems will revolutionize training by giving commanders a near-real-time view of all their maneuver units in the field, Wallace said.

The systems can track every element on the battlefield, from tanks, trucks and helicopters to individual soldiers. The result is a highly detailed computer record of events that allows commanders to conduct more immediate and thorough after-action reviews, said William Brian, project manager for the company that designed the system, Inter-Coastal Electronics.



FROM TANKS, TRUCKS AND HELICOPTERS TO INDIVIDUAL SOLDIERS.

Here's how the systems work:

The Collective Tactical Engagement Simulation System tracks the Multiple-Launch Rocket System and helicopters. The Deployable Instrumentation Training System tracks tanks and personnel. Every piece of equipment and every individual is equipped with a tracking device, which sends a radio signal to the C-TESS and DITS.

►C-TESS

C-TESS monitors every MLRS and helicopter with Smart Onboard Data

Information Modules. SMODIMS transmit identification numbers and battle information for each piece of equipment. So C-TESS “knows” everything that’s happening with that particular piece of equipment — even the number of rockets fired.

►DITS

DITS, the system that tracks armored vehicles and personnel, can simulate artillery, mortars and minefields. It tracks people via a battery pack and a Global Positioning

System unit attached to a special vest.

Previously, such comprehensive system tracking could be done only at large U.S. maneuver training centers, where repeater towers that transmit the “battle” information are located, said DOG master tank gunner SSG Ron Broulette.

Victory Strike might be long over, but soldiers throughout U.S. Army, Europe, can expect to reap long-term benefits once the tracking systems are fully fielded. □

A large Black Hawk helicopter is the central focus, tilted slightly to the left. It's a military transport helicopter with a dark camouflage paint. In the foreground, a soldier in a tan uniform and helmet is crouched, looking towards the helicopter. The ground is rocky and uneven. The background shows more of the helicopter and some indistinct structures.

“Black Hawk

Story by Heike Hasenauer

“P”EARL Harbor” producer Jerry Bruckheimer and Ridley Scott, director of “Hannibal” and “Gladiator,” spent months under the burning Moroccan sun to create the just-released movie “Black Hawk Down.”

An adaptation of the best-selling nonfiction book by Mark Bowden, the film recounts the danger, desperation, courage and sacrifice that punctuated the worst 18 hours of U.S. military ground combat in recent history — the nightmarish events of Oct. 3, 1993, in Mogadishu, Somalia.

“There’s no romance in this film, no underlying story. It’s strictly combat, as bad as it gets,” said actor Tom Sizemore, who played Tom Hanks’ first sergeant in “Saving Private Ryan.”

Sizemore portrays LTC Danny McKnight, commander of a convoy that was to take rangers and Delta Force commandos to safety after they’d captured several of Somali warlord Mohammed Farrah Aidid’s men. But the convoy became terribly lost in the fog of battle.

“This movie definitely has no sentimentality,” Sizemore said. “It’s about 152 guys who are screwed. They’re the real heroes. I just portray one of them.”

Once again, the Army played an important role in supporting the film and contributing to its historical accuracy, Bruckheimer said.

(Continued on page 42)

The film recreates the mission to capture Somali warlord Mohammed Farrah Aidid. It was supposed to have been relatively easy, but then two Black Hawks crashed in the city and all hell broke loose.

All photos courtesy Revolution Studios unless otherwise credited.

Wk Down"





"Black Hawk Down"

(Continued from page 40)

"'Black Hawk Down' is not an exact depiction of characters and events," said retired Navy SEAL Harry Humphries, a technical advisor on the film. Some characters are composites of several rangers or commandos who were on the ground during the battle. SSG Matt Eversmann — whose "chalk" was the first to rope down into the target area, for example — figures prominently in the film, "but he does things other chalk leaders did," Humphries said.

In June 2001 Eversmann was on the set where the production crew filmed the return to the "Pakistani stadium" of a rescue convoy of United Nations troops and 10th Mountain Division soldiers. Tanks and armored personnel carriers carrying Pakistani and Malaysian markings — representative of the two nations that furnished the heavy equipment for the actual

SSG Matt Eversmann (right), whose "chalk" was the first to rope down into the target area, spent time on the set in Morocco with producer Jerry Bruckheimer.

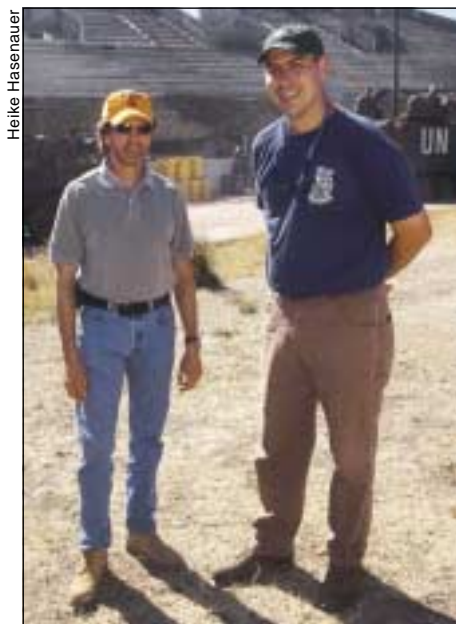
rescue — churned the earth and sent dirt clouds in every direction.

"The images have stirred memories, some that have made the hair on my neck stand up because they're such an actual depiction of the events of Oct. 3," said Eversmann.

"Obviously, a traumatic experience is something you live with every day. It will live with me forever. The mission is something I'm tremendously proud of. Yet, when we talk about the soldiers who died, I get very sad," he said.

"But I've made peace with what it means to be a ranger," said Eversmann, now a sergeant first class and operations sergeant at the U.S. Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

The movie also highlights the heroic efforts of two Special Operations Command snipers, MSG Gary Gordon and SFC Randall Shughart, who were killed while attempting to rescue downed UH-60 pilot CW2 Michael Durant. The two were



Heike Hasenauer



An MH-6 "Little Bird" helicopter of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment provides backup to U.S. forces on the ground in this recreated downtown Mogadishu scene.

awarded posthumous Medals of Honor.

Somali militiamen held Durant, who suffered numerous injuries in the crash, captive for 11 days. His captors released a videotape of his bruised, combat-weary face that was shown repeatedly on news programs around the world.

Josh Hartnett, who portrayed Army Air Corps pilot Danny Walker in "Pearl Harbor," plays Eversmann; Ron Eldard, of "Sleepers" and "ER" fame, is Durant; Johnny Strong and Nikolai Waldau are Shughart and Gordon, respectively, and Jeremy Piven plays ill-fated Black Hawk pilot CW2 Cliff Wolcott.

Others in the cast include William Fichtner, Jason Isaacs, Eric Bana, Ewan McGregor and Brian Van Holt.

Some 1,000 extras, from Morocco and several other African nations, portray the Somalis, said casting director Billy Dowd.

The production crew filmed largely in Salé, Morocco, near the capital city of Rabat, in areas that replicate the abject poverty of Mogadishu and precluded set designers from having to create major sets.

It's an area where children play barefoot in trash-covered dirt lots as cattle wander about. Ramshackle huts look like precariously connected scraps of wood, tin, cloth and cardboard.

In the marketplace, wiry peasants hawk their wares. And all around the city, women cloaked in long, plain shrouds and headscarves shuffle along dirt and concrete walkways.

"The toughest thing about making this movie is the location. It's filthy," said Sizemore, "But so was Mogadishu. This will be a great film about sophisticated urban, house-to-house warfare."

The Army became involved in the production in late 2000, said MAJ



Heike Hasenauer

Crews from the 160th SOAR — not actors — fly the "Little Birds." The diminutive helicopters play a key role in the movie, as they did in the actual battle.

Andres Ortegon, the Army's liaison to the film industry from the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, Los Angeles Branch.

Then, in March 2001, 22 actors underwent one week of ranger familiarization training sponsored by the 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, Ga.

To ensure accuracy, Ortegon monitored filming daily. He also reported to the Army staff regularly on the status of filming, the production company's requirements and use of military vehicles and personnel, and reimbursable expenses.

Units that were actually involved in the 1993 battle provided technical

advisors to the production crew through a U.S. Special Operations Command task force, the first task force ever established to support the making of a movie, Ortegon said.

They included retired COL Lee Van Arsdale, a former special operations commander; retired COL Tom Matthews, the 1993 air mission commander for Task Force Ranger's 1st Bn., 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment; and SPC John Collett, a ranger and SAW gunner

during the battle.

SSG Richard Botsford, from the 3rd Bn., 160th SOAR, who was on the Mogadishu airfield during the battle, also was an advisor. "I was attached to the 8th Bn., 101st Airborne Division, to maintain the Cobra helicopters of the 10th Mountain Div.," he said.

"On Oct. 4 and 5, five of us on the Cobra team loaded wounded and dead soldiers from the battle onto C-141s," he said. "Some of the wounded were hurt pretty bad."

Some 140 U.S. soldiers supported filming in Morocco, said Ortegon. They included rangers from Fort Benning, who viewers will see in the film rappelling from aircraft over "Mogadishu," and 160th SOAR crews who fly the Black Hawks and MH-6 and AH-6 "Little Birds" in aerial sequences.

"The most exciting part of filming



Actor William Fichtner, a veteran of the films "Pearl Harbor" and "The Perfect Storm," plays a fictional character, MSG Paul Howe.

Heike Hasenauer



The Moroccan location lent an air of authenticity. Here, fresh meat hangs from a local merchant's stall at an alleyway market near the film site.



"Black Hawk Down"

was the gun runs on the rooftops at the Alamo crash site, where the first Black Hawk went down," said CW3 Dana Jones, a 160th SOAR pilot from the unit's Company A, 1st Bn., at Fort Campbell, Ky.

"'Somali militiamen' were all over the rooftops as we fired simulated

rounds," Jones said. "Explosions, made by gun-cap-type squibs attached along a string of wire, were going off all along the roof, and people were falling like dominoes. It was so realistic, at first we were a little shocked."

"Crashed" Black Hawks brought an eerie reality to the two crash-site sets, one of them in a partially created maze of dilapidated concrete and wood buildings.

"The downtown area is where the first helicopter crashed and where the guys huddled and tried to survive the night. When the U.N. convoy comes to the rescue, there's an unbelievable amount of firepower," said the film's publicist, Michael Singer.

In June 2001, CW3 Greg Dodson, a 160th SOAR pilot, spent a good part of a day with his Black Hawk sitting on a cliff overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. He and others transformed the helicopter into a mock command-and-control Black Hawk that in the film flies low over the city.

On the ground, some 1,000 extras jumped out from behind every crevice and corner, sprang off rooftops firing frantically, yelling and screaming

At a local market in Rabat, Morocco's capital, residents sell their wares and conduct businesses from ramshackle huts that traverse entire city blocks.

obscurities and sometimes dropping "dead" in their tracks. The 1,000 will become 8,000 Somalis on screen, said special effects coordinator Timothy Burke.

Because the film's "Somalis" are armed with M-16 and AK-47 automatic rifles and M-60 machine guns, Moroccan army representatives monitored training of groups of 15 extras from a core group of 50, said armorer Steve Cummings.

"For filming the night scene, where the U.N. convoy arrives at the 'Pakistani stadium,' every weapon, including .50-caliber machine guns, was firing. We've gone through three tons of blank ammunition — about 250,000 rounds in about three months of shooting," Cummings said.

"We purchased 5-ton trucks and Humvees that we converted to hard-tops, then blew them up," Singer said. And special effects built MH-60 mock-ups so we could crash those."

"We recreated the joint operations center based on unclassified photos and helicopter footage of the attack," Bruckheimer added. In some cases, as with the target building in downtown Mogadishu, set designers had to construct facades on skeletal structures so they could destroy them.

The partially constructed stadium, to which the rescue convoy returns, will be completed in the computer, Burke said. In the movie, viewers will see a mosque in the background where a water tower actually stands.

Other location shots will be computer-enhanced for accuracy, Burke said. Hangar scenes depicting where the U.S. soldiers lived, and from where they launched their helicopters, were shot at a Moroccan air base north of Rabat.

"The air base at Mogadishu was located on the coast. Our 'air base,' 40 kilometers north of Rabat, in Kenitra, is close, but not close enough. So we'll establish its proximity to the ocean with visuals," Burke said.

For obvious safety reasons, "fantastic spiraling stunt-flying sequences were filmed out over the ocean instead of over the actual sets, and will be married up with location shots, Burke said.



While the dirt and decay of portions of Morocco mimic the streets of Mogadishu, so too do its colorful markets and people.



At the “Alamo” crash site, where the first Black Hawk went down during the real battle, SSG Matt Eversmann, played by Josh Hartnett (*inset, at right*), was holed up for one of the longest nights of his life.



Special effects will also replicate some of the more personal, human atrocities of battle. One of the most horrifying incidents was when PVT Richard Kowalewski, who was riding in one of the trucks in the initial rescue convoy, was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade. It “rocketed in from the left, severing his left arm and entering his chest,” according to a passage in Bowden’s book. “There was an explosion, but most of the two-foot-long missile embedded itself in Kowalewski...”

“We’ll animate the RPG to look

like it is embedded in the actor,” said Burke. “In a later scene, where he’s evacuated, we’ll use an actual model attached to the actor’s body.”

“While the movie will not be a documentary, it’s the most detailed account of the battle that I’ve seen,” said Matthews, who was in the air for 18 hours on Oct 3, 1993.

“We went to get two of Aidid’s men,” Matthews said. “We policed them up. But after 30 minutes, the element of surprise wore off. When the first Black Hawk got hit, we got a whole new mission. There were eight

Americans on that bird. We completed our mission. We got Aidid’s cronies back to our air base.

“How did the convoy get so lost?” Matthews said. “After it got the prisoners, it had to go to another location. There was no signal, no flare indicating where the guys on the ground had to go. They wanted to move as fast as they could.

Drivers were wounded and others had to take the wheel. Windows were shattered. It was easy to miss a turn. When they did, the alleys were so narrow, the whole convoy couldn’t just turn around.

“We were fired on continually,” Matthews explained. Five aircraft were shot down: Durant’s, Wolcott’s and three that crashed in other parts of the city. Two of the aircraft made it back to the airfield.

“Our soldiers displayed a phenomenal amount of courage that day as thousands of bullets and hundreds of RPGs were fired at us,” Matthews said. “Urban-combat operations are as dirty as it gets, because you can see only from one building to the next. The technology edge is limited as soon as I can see you and you can see me.”

MAJ James Viola, currently a member of the 2nd Bn., 160th SOAR, was a platoon leader for the MH-6 “Little Birds” in Mogadishu and was officer in charge of the 160th SOAR task force on the film set.

“I was in the JOC when the battle kicked off. I was against the wall and thought: ‘If we were in an academic



Special operations troops in Mogadishu were attacked by hundreds of Somalis, who fired on them from rooftops, alleyways and doorways.



"Black Hawk Down"

environment, something like this couldn't go so wrong," Viola said.

"I'd always wondered, 'Will we actually do the mission the way we train to do it?' We'd do the communication the same, different elements would be on different frequencies. Bowden's book makes it sound like there was a communication problem because everyone couldn't talk to each other at once," Viola said.

"There were some small errors due to the fog of battle," he continued. "For example, from the air, telling someone to take a left would be different from being on the ground and telling them to go left. The guys were running along the street and we tried to pick them up..."

"I was in the air Oct. 3. I'd been in Somalia since August," Viola said. "The Little Birds weren't hit much. A few mortar attacks were all we'd ever gotten. I was down at the recreated site where Wolcott crashed. It was real eerie. It took me a few days to realize 'This is just a movie.'"

John Collett, a SP4 SAW gunner in 1993, had been on the movie set since February. "It was hard to deal with during the first few weeks," he said. "In my platoon, CPL Jamie Smith, one of the real-life soldiers focused on in the film, was killed."

Smith's story was among the worst. Medics in his unit worked to keep him alive and prayed for the rescue convoy to get him to a doctor. A bullet had hit Smith in the thigh and traveled up into his groin, piercing major blood vessels. The medics had to reach inside Smith's abdomen trying to find and clamp the vessels.

Collett came out of the battle physically unscathed. "Our team leader, SGT Randy Ramaglia, was with me when a bullet just grazed my shoulder, taking the flag off my uniform. It passed me and took a chunk out of Ramaglia's underarm," said Collett, who left the Army in 2001 as a sergeant first class.

"The convoy took the most hits," Sizemore added. "Six soldiers were killed, and there were numerous wounded. McKnight told me that watching the kids get slaughtered was tough.

"The guys who were actually there don't really share their emotions with

Heike Hasenauer



Pilots from the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment fly the "Little Bird" and Black Hawk helicopters in the film in various scenes.

anyone," Sizemore said. "But, you'll see it sometimes. John Collett had to leave the set when 'Jamie Smith' got killed."

"I read the book and looked at research documents," said actor Steven Ford. He plays a fictitious soldier named Joe Cribbs, an aide to TF Ranger commander MG William Garrison, played by Sam Shepard.

"It really came into focus for me when I met the guys who walked those streets in Mogadishu and fired the weapons," Ford said.

"The world moves so fast," Ford said. "This was a three-to-four-day blip on the CNN radar screen. If you missed it, you missed it.

"This film will highlight a very important event for the Army, credit those who fought, and tell the stories about the people who lost their lives," he said. "Most people will never know what it's like to be 6,000 miles from home and have to make split-second decisions. I slept well at home before participating in this movie, but after meeting these guys, I'll sleep even better. My respect for the U.S. military forces has always been high, but it's gone up even more." □

Heike Hasenauer



The Black Hawks that crashed in Mogadishu (recreated here for the film) crashed in confined spaces, which made rescue of their crews extremely difficult.

BACKGROUND to a Battle

U.S. military involvement in war-torn Somalia began in 1992 as a humanitarian-aid mission to feed the African nation's starving people. It culminated on Oct. 3, 1993, with the deaths of 18 soldiers in what U.S. military officials called the worst ground combat since the Vietnam War.

Eighty-four soldiers were wounded, some of them seriously.

"In December 1992, when we initially went into Somalia, hundreds of people were starving. We fed them," said retired COL Tom Matthews, the air mission commander for Task Force Ranger's 1st Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, during the battle.

"With the March 1993 transition to United Nations control, the focus changed to maintaining peace, including disarming the Somalis," Matthews said.

In June 1993 Somali warlord Mohammed Farrah Aidid's clan massacred 24 Pakistani peacekeepers, "literally skinning them alive. Then the U.N. mission progressed to a U.N. 'Chapter 7' mission, which means you can use force if necessary," Matthews said.

"A month later we were now at war, and a \$25,000 bounty was put on Aidid's head," he said.

For TF Ranger—a U.S. Special Operations Command force composed of soldiers from Company B, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, from Fort Benning, Ga.; special operations soldiers from Fort Bragg, N.C.; 160th SOAR aviators from Fort Campbell, Ky., and Hunter Army Airfield, Ga.; and a crack combat search-and-rescue team—the mission in Somalia was to have been fairly easy.

"In two months we 'spun' up—prepared to react to missions—about 40 times," Matthews said. "We did it to numb the population to our presence. We actually executed six missions before this—three

at night, three during the day.

"In all of those missions, collectively, I took two bullets in my helicopter," Matthews said. "And I'd seen a total of maybe 12 rocket-propelled grenades fired. But in those 18 hours, the Somalis probably fired 200 to 300 RPGs at us."

On the day of the Mogadishu battle, special-operations force soldiers and rangers were to be flown to an area near the target building. After roping down, the SOF troops would storm the building as rangers formed a perimeter on the streets surrounding it. The SOF soldiers would extract two of Aidid's top men, and everyone would return to the rear without incident, via a ground convoy of nine Humvees and three 5-ton trucks.

The assault force included some 160 men. In the ground convoy, commanded by LTC Danny McKnight, four members of a Navy SEAL team augmented rangers and SOF operators.

Four rocket-armed AH-6 "Little Bird" helicopters provided air support. Four MH-6 troop-carrier versions of the small helicopter were fitted with benches mounted on both sides below the doors. They carried the SOF personnel, the spearhead of the assault force.

Additionally, eight Black Hawk helicopters delivered some of the SOF soldiers, the rangers, the CSAR team and two mission commanders—LTC Tom Matthews, who coordinated with 160th SOAR pilots, and the SOF unit's LTC Gary Harrell, who commanded troops on the ground.

The men had performed missions like this many times before. But this mission, expected to take roughly an hour, lasted 18 hours. During that time, two of the task force's Black Hawks crashed in the most populated area of the city, and the convoy that was intended to get the troops out became lost.

Suddenly, the task force took on a whole



Heike Hasenauer

An Army helicopter — one of several supporting the filming of "Black Hawk Down" — flies an aerial sequence near rugged cliffs on Morocco's coast.

new mission—to rescue the downed helicopter crews. The first Black Hawk, piloted by CW2 Cliff Wolcott, went down in a narrow alley after being hit by an RPG. The second bird, piloted by CW2 Michael Durant, crashed in a small courtyard surrounded by ramshackle huts.

Outnumbered U.S. troops were pinned down in the littered city streets as thousands of Somali militiamen and civilians let loose a hail of gunfire and RPGs.

For Americans, the brutal reality of combat intensified with the Oct. 4 CNN broadcast of Somali mobs dragging the battered, lifeless bodies of U.S. soldiers through Mogadishu's filthy streets.

Red Cross officials later estimated 500 Somalis were killed and thousands wounded.

The episode in Mogadishu raised considerable controversy throughout the military and civilian sectors about when U.S. soldiers should be deployed to potentially hostile areas, how many should be sent and what type of back up should be in place. — Heike Hasenauer

Around the Services

Compiled by Paul Disney from service reports



Air Force

C-17 Globemaster III aircrews dropped the one-millionth humanitarian daily ration in an ongoing campaign to feed refugees in Afghanistan.

Without fanfare, a loadmaster aboard one of the C-17s dropped the single ration from the rear of the plane. The airlifts have been dropping 34,000 to 70,000 HDRs every night since Oct. 8, when Operation Enduring Freedom began.



Department of Defense

DOD health officials have released an information paper that indicates no U.S. or coalition troops sent to the Balkans have been exposed to health threats related to depleted uranium.

Depleted uranium is a prime component in some U.S. weapons. In early 2001 international media reported a link between depleted uranium and leukemia in Italian peacekeepers who served in the Balkans. Studies by European health agencies and international organizations back the U.S. study's conclusions.



Navy

A new oceanographic research vessel, USNS *Kilo Moana*, was recently commissioned in Jacksonville, Fla., by Hawaii Senator Daniel Inouye. The vessel, whose name means "oceanographer" in Hawaiian, will perform a broad range of research in coastal and deep-ocean areas.



Marines

The Marines airlifted into southern Afghanistan to set up a forward operating base are to be replaced by soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division from Fort Campbell, Ky. U.S. forces will continue to use the base to support anti-Taliban forces in Afghanistan and to aid in humanitarian-assistance efforts.





Corps Bridge Saves Lives



An Afghan villager walks across the old bridge in the province of Laghman.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Office of History

The success of the bridges and the self-help program were early tributes to the Corps' efforts to improve the everyday lives of the Afghan people.

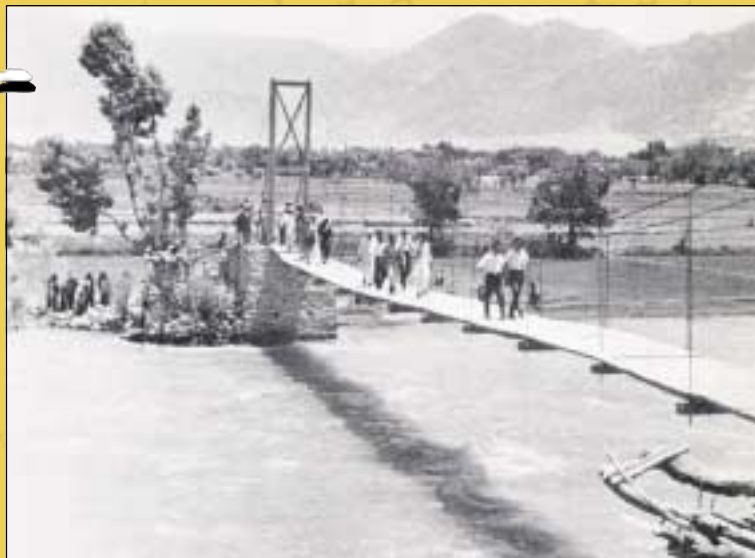
DURING the 1960s the U.S. Agency for International Development sought assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in overcoming a hazardous situation in the Afghan province of Laghman.

While making their way to market or school, many Afghan villagers risked falling to their deaths while attempting to cross flooded rivers on antiquated and unstable bridges. The Corps' Mediterranean Division's Area Engineer office designed a new type of bridge to solve the problem. Also, in an effort to allow for future construction, the engineers ensured all building materials except for the cables and connectors were locally obtainable.

The design of the bridge was simple and easily replicated. Steel cables replaced old rope. The maximum load was 1,000 pounds per 3-meter section — based on the approximate weight of a loaded donkey with a 2.8 meters clear width. Engineers

designed two bridge variations — one strictly for pedestrian and animal crossing, and another that would allow vehicle crossing.

The first suspension bridge was built for less than \$1,000, and timing of its emplacement was fortuitous. An old man nicknamed "the Cricket" had been maintaining a decrepit older bridge. Prior to the new bridge's



Villagers line up to cross the newly completed "Cricket Bridge" designed by the Corps' Mediterranean Division's Area Engineer office.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Office of History

completion, "the Cricket" fell from the bridge and drowned. Soon after his death a flood washed out the old bridge.

Two additional bridges were later constructed in the province. The success of the bridges and the self-help program were early tributes to the Corps' efforts to improve the everyday lives of the Afghan people. □



Check this out

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' website at www.hq.usace.army.mil/history

Text provided by USACE Office of History



MIKE MAYWEATHER

Mayweather is Army's career rushing leader with 4,299 yards. He also established the West Point single-season mark, with 1,338 yards in 1990, and finished 10th in the Heisman Trophy balloting. The St. Louis, Mo., native served as a field artillery officer and is currently an account manager for a TV station near his hometown.

